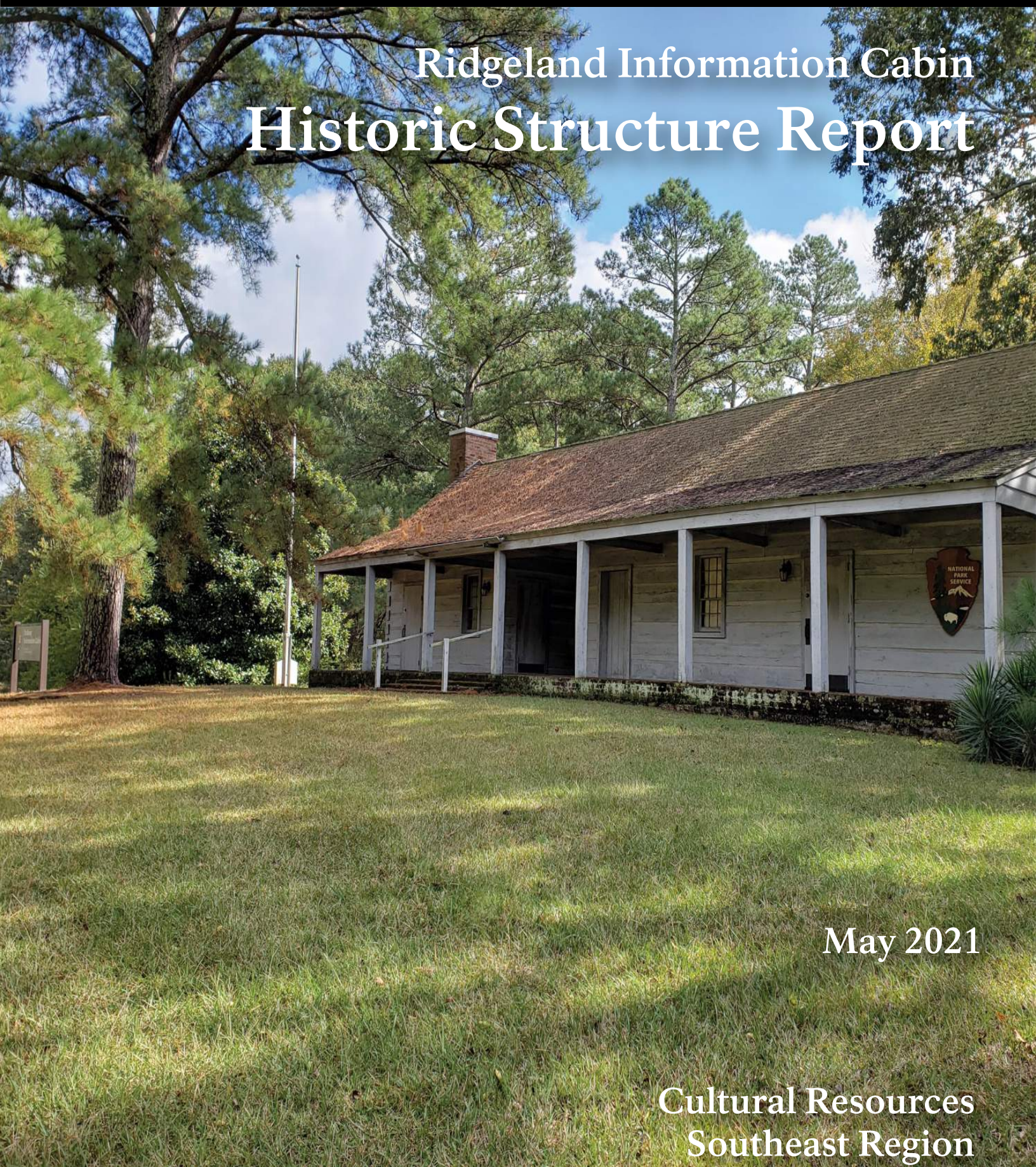




Ridgeland Information Cabin Historic Structure Report



May 2021

Cultural Resources
Southeast Region

Ridgeland Information Cabin

Ridgeland, Mississippi

Historic Structure Report

May 2021

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About the front cover: View of the Ridgeland
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31, 2019.

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Management Summary

Executive Summary

The Ridgeland Information Cabin is associated with the development of the Natchez Trace Parkway. The log, dogtrot cabin was designed in 1940 by Robert E. Smith, of the NPS Architectural Division in Tupelo, Mississippi for use as a visitor contact station on the Parkway.

The picturesque cabin design was intended to convey the early history of the Old Trace and settlements of the Lower Mississippi Valley.

The cabin was not constructed until 1951 due to the halting of construction on the Parkway during World War II. The cabin, the first interpretive center associated with the Parkway, was constructed as designed by Smith using native materials, natural whole logs, with the look of a hand-built structure. Due to the clay soils in the area, the cabin was constructed on a concrete

foundation with grade beams and 30-foot deep concrete piles.

From 1951 to 1975 the cabin was intermittently staffed by the National Park Service (Figure 1). From 1975 to 2007, the Mississippi Craft Center occupied the building. Rehabilitation work to the bathrooms and entrance pathways was completed in 2009 by NPS to improve accessibility.

Between the completion of this work and 2013, the foundation heaved to the extent that it caused a total failure of the plumbing systems and a ten-inch differential in elevation from front to back of the cabin. The doors in the Exhibit Room were inoperable, the bathrooms were closed, and the main entrance required modification to function.

Soils investigation borings were completed in 2015 by Burns Cooley and Dennis to characterize the existing soils.



Figure 1. Photo of cabin, undated. (Interpretive Photographic Collection, No Catalog Number, Natchez Trace Parkway Archives, Tupelo, MS. No Date. – Appendix D.)

Management Summary

The goal is to stabilize the cabin by repairing the foundations.

This purpose of the HSR is to provide a framework for the future rehabilitation of the foundation as well as other future repairs.

Treatment alternatives for the foundation repair will be developed as part of this report that will inform a future Schematic Design phase. Treatments will aim to increase resilience to climate change and natural hazards, specifically increases in precipitation and high wind events such as hurricanes.

Administrative Data

Locational Data

Building Name: Ridgeland Information Cabin

Location: 100 E. Jackson Street, Ridgeland, MS 39157, at mile marker 102.4 on the Natchez Trace Parkway, near the US 51 and Illinois Central Railroad Line interchange (Figure 2).

UTM Coordinates: 32°25'34057"N, 90°07'33.29"W

Related Studies

Exploration of Subsurface Soil conditions and Floor Level Survey, Natchez Trace Visitor Center, Ridgeland, Mississippi, Burns Cooley Dennis, Inc. (Report No 150550), September 4, 2015

Cultural Resource Data

The Ridgeland Information Cabin is not listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). In 2009, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History indicated that the cabin is eligible for listing on the NRHP as “a contributing resource associated with the Natchez Trace Parkway’s development.”¹

The cabin is eligible for NHRP under Criteria A for association with Recreation as an interpretive center constructed for Parkway visitors.

Period of Significance: 1951-1970

Proposed Treatment: Preservation

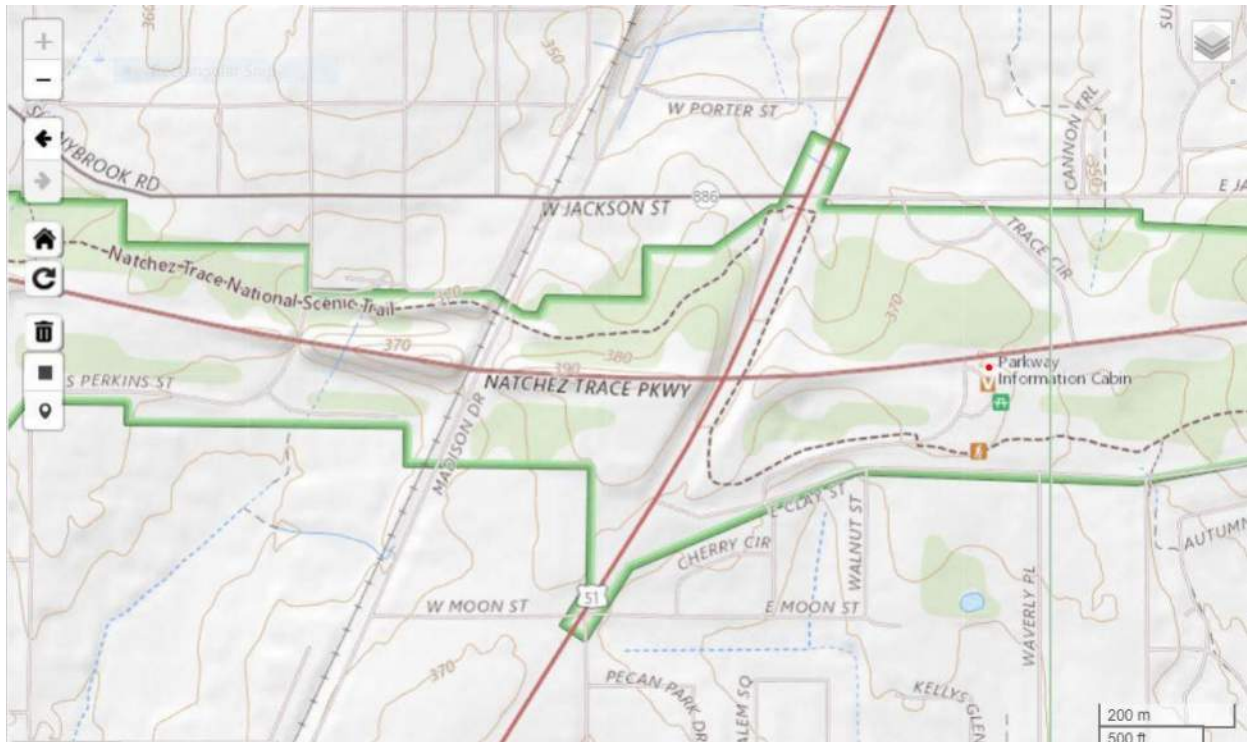


Figure 2. Map of cabin location. U.S. Geological Survey, 20180319, USGS US Topo 7.5-minute map for Ridgeland, MS 2018: USGS - National Geospatial Technical Operations Center (NGTOC).

¹ Letter from Jim Woodrick to Gordon Wilson, May 25, 2009. Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Historic Preservation Division survey Files, Ridgeland

Visitor Contact Center (Natchez Trace Parkway), Ridgeland, Madison county, 089-RDG-8006.

Project Scope and Methodology

The goal of the HSR is to develop planning information for use in the repair, maintenance, and preservation of the cabin. A historic structure report provides documentary, graphic, and physical information about a property's history and existing condition. Broadly recognized as an effective part of preservation planning, a historic structure report also addresses goals for the use or re-use of the property, based on existing management documents and consultation with Park staff. It provides a thoughtfully considered argument for selecting the most appropriate approach to treatment, prior to the commencement of work, and outlines a scope of recommended work. The report serves as an important guide for all changes made to a historic property during past projects - repair, rehabilitation, or restoration - and can also provide information for maintenance procedures. Finally, it records the findings of research and investigation, as well as the processes of physical work, for future researchers.

Research supporting the historical background and context was "limited," including information in readily available published sources; research in documentary sources that are easily accessible and known to be of high yield, including the collections of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the Parkway library. The report is in no greater detail than directly required by the task directive.

Research and Document Review

In conjunction with the HSR, research was conducted by William Gatlin at the Mississippi Department of Archives and History in Jackson and at the Curatorial Building at the Natchez Trace Parkway headquarters in Tupelo. NATR Cultural Resources Manager Christina Smith PhD was helpful in providing electronic resources for review by the project team.

The following documents provided the most data on the Ridgeland Information Cabin:

- Architectural drawings titled "Information Station, Ridgeland District Headquarters Sec. 3-0, Natchez Trace Parkway" for the Ridgeland Orientation Center, dated 12 May

1940 and labeled as drawing #2487-C within NPS records. Attached as Appendix A.

- A final construction report titled "Buildings and Incidental Work, Ridgeland District Headquarters, Section 3-0, Ridgeland, Mississippi, Contract No. I-27np-333, Final Construction Report," written by Robert E. Smith, Architect, on 15 November 1951. Attached as Appendix B.
- A geotechnical report prepared by Burns Cooley Dennis, Inc. titled "Exploration of Subsurface Soil Conditions and Floor Level Survey." The report was prepared on 4 September 2015 based on a survey they performed on 26 August 2015. Attached as Appendix C.
- Background documents prepared by NPS staff. Includes photos, plans, satellite images, a contract for the 2009 renovations, and a map of the area. Attached as Appendix D.
- A geotechnical report prepared by BCD titled "Exploration of Subsurface Soil Conditions Geotechnical Services to Support Ridgeland Cabin Historic Structure Report Madison County, Mississippi." The report was prepared on 13 July 2020 based on exploratory work done on 5 June 2020. Attached as Appendix I.

Condition Assessment and Documentation

The Ridgeland Information Cabin was surveyed by Mills + Schnoering Architects, LLC, Simpson Gumpertz & Heger (SGH) (Structural Engineers), and William Gatlin (Historian) on October 31st, 2019. Prior to the survey, the original construction drawings were reviewed.

Observations were recorded graphically and photographically. Measurements were taken throughout the structure to confirm measurements and to document original building details. Measurements were also taken of the floor slopes and general alignment of the building's elements in an effort to understand the unique settlement observed at the floor slab.

The assessment of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems by an engineer was not included in the final task order.

Management Summary

In an effort to better understand the conditions of the foundations, two test pits were made to observe of the connections of the grade beams to the concrete piles.

Development of History, Chronology of Construction and Evaluation of Significance

After a review of archival documentation and physical evidence observed during the site visit, a context history and a chronology of design and construction were prepared. An evaluation of significance was developed following the guidance of the *National Register Bulletin How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*.² The evaluation of the history and significance of the cabin provides a foundation for the development of treatment alternatives.

The Ridgeland Information Cabin is not currently listed in the National Register of Historic Places. It does not have a Period of Significance, which will be defined in a future National Register Nomination Form. However, in consultation with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, the building was determined eligible for the National Register in 2009 as a contributing resource associated with Parkway's development. A period of interpretation and treatment (in lieu of a Period of Significance) specific to the Ridgeland Information Cabin is proposed as follows: 1951 – 1970. Since Recreation, a recognized NRHP area of significance, is used to justify the creation of the Parkway, the contribution of the cabin to the area of Recreation as a museum, visitor center and travelers' comfort station between 1951 and 1970 (50 years ago) is identified as "the span of time when the property actively contributed" to Recreation.

Guidelines for Preservation

Based on the assessment of the historical and architectural significance of the building,

guidelines were prepared to assist in the implementation of preservation treatments.

Treatment Recommendations

The Ridgeland Information Cabin is a component of the Parkway, which was documented on the National Register of Historic Places in a 2004 National Register Eligibility Assessment and DOE from the Keeper with a Period of Significance extending from 1934 to 1968. The administratively determined Management Category and Ultimate Treatment for the cabin has not been defined through a planning effort and decision document (i.e. a General Management Plan or Environmental Assessment). The park intends to manage the structure as a resource that Should be Preserved and Maintained, with an Ultimate Treatment of Preservation/Stabilization, as characterized in *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties*. The treatment recommendations are based on the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.

The overall treatment approach for the Ridgeland Information Cabin is Preservation. Specific recommendations will be developed to address the conditions observed on site, as well as the interpretive goals and visitor experience objectives of the National Park Service.

Preparation of Historic Structure Report

Following completion of research, site work, and analysis, this narrative report was prepared summarizing the result of the research and inspection and presenting treatment recommendations. The HSR was compiled following the organization guidelines of the NPS Preservation Brief 43: The Preparation and Use of Historic Structure Reports³, Historic Structure Report Standards⁴, General Standards for HSR Deliverables⁵, and Preparing NPS Publications⁶.

² National Register Bulletin: How to Apply the National Register criteria for Evaluation (Washington, D.D.: Government Printing Office, 1997)

³ Deborah Slaton, Preservation Brief 43: The Preparation and Use of Historic Structure Reports

(Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, Technical Preservation Services, 2005).

⁴ <https://www.nps.gov/dscw/hsr-standards.htm>

⁵ <https://www.nps.gov/dscw/hsr-deliverables.htm>

⁶ Preparing NPS Publications, Office of Publications, Harpers Ferry Center, National Park Service 11/20/18.

Developmental History

Historical Background and Context

The Ridgeland Information Cabin is located on the south side of the Natchez Trace Parkway (Parkway) at Milepost 102.4 near the intersection with Rice Road. The cabin serves as an information station, museum and comfort station for travelers on the Parkway. The Parkway, a unit of the national park system, designed the building and oversaw construction. The building was dedicated in 1951. The Parkway was created by an act of Congress for the purpose of memorializing the Natchez Trace, an early road connecting Nashville, Tennessee and the Natchez District in Mississippi. Research supporting the historical

background and context was “limited,” including information in readily available published sources; research in documentary sources that are easily accessible and known to be of high yield, including the collections of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the Parkway library. The report is in no greater detail than directly required by the task directive.

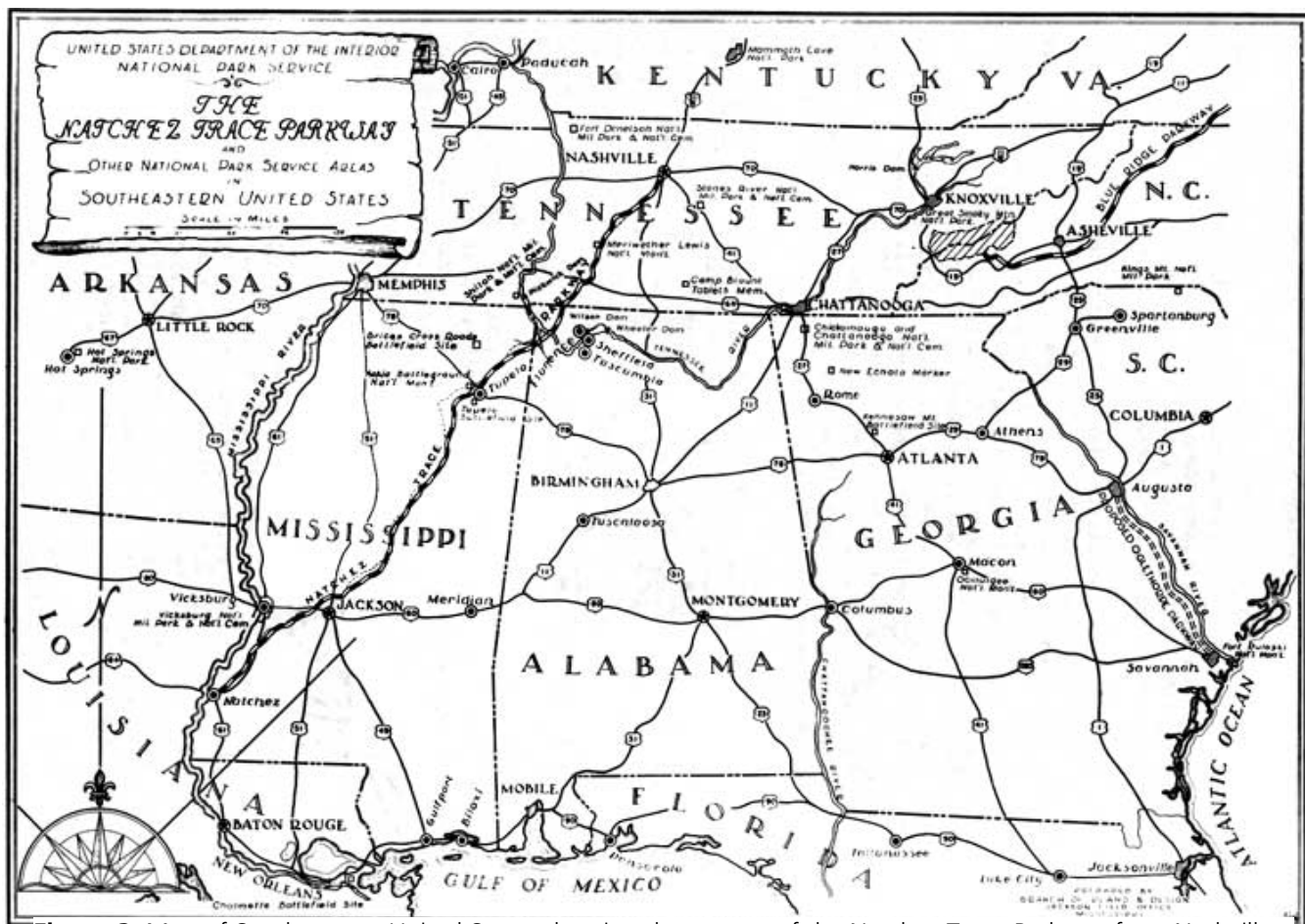


Figure 3. Map of Southeastern United States showing the extents of the Natchez Trace Parkway from Nashville, Tennessee to Natchez, Mississippi. (Source: http://npshistory.com/newsletters/regional_review/vol2-4d.htm)

The Old Trace

A series of animal trails following ridgelines and uplands through the wilderness in the region existed for centuries. These trails followed natural landscape providing the least restrictive lines of transit. Native Americans followed these routes for purposes of hunting, settlement, and trade. As Europeans settled in the region, they also adopted the trails that made the most convenient pathways through the forests and wetlands of Mississippi.

Farmers in the Ohio River valley shipped agricultural products down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers for sale in the Spanish-controlled ports of Natchez and New Orleans. The boats were generally flat boats that relied on the downstream current for power. Since these vessels were not able to sail against the currents, the boatmen had to return overland. As many of the boatmen came from Kentucky, they were called “Kaintucks.”

The boatmen followed the unimproved trails through the woodlands from the Spanish-controlled region in Southwest Mississippi. The route took them through the territory of the Choctaw and Chickasaw. NPS historian Dawson Phelps estimated that as many as 5,000 boatmen made the trek annually from the Natchez District to the settlement on the Cumberland River, today known as Nashville.¹

The series of rough trails may have remained an informal pathway had the nascent United States of America not taken control of Natchez in 1800. Natchez became an isolated corner of the republic, 500 miles from the nearest American settlements in Tennessee. The first territorial governor, Winthrop Sargent, discovered that it took three months for correspondence to reach the government centers in the east. He advised Timothy Pickering, the Secretary of State, about the problem and suggested establishment of a post road between Natchez and Nashville.² On April 28, 1800, Congress designated a post road between

Nashville and Natchez, leaving the selection of the route to the Postmaster General.³ The postmaster awarded a contract to Abijah Hunt to carry the mail, but the rough condition of the trail caused delays.

In March 1801, Postmaster General Habersham appealed to the Secretary of War to assign military troops stationed in the region to open a wagon route along the postal road. Henry Dearborn, the Secretary of War, instructed James Wilkinson, the army commander in the region, to employ troops to clear a wagon road, bridge the creeks and causeway the swamps.⁴

Since the road would go through Choctaw and Chickasaw lands, Wilkinson first had to conclude treaties with the tribes. He and other commissioners met with the Chickasaw at Chickasaw Bluff, near present day Memphis in October 1801. The Chickasaw agreed to the road but retained the right to open inns and operate ferries. Wilkinson met the Choctaws at Fort Adams in December 1801. The Choctaws also consented to a road through their lands, but, like the Chickasaws, retained the right to operate inns on the road.⁵

Army troops under the command of Col. Robert Butler began cutting a road through the forests between the Tennessee River and the Duck River in Tennessee. The troops transferred to the southern end of the route. Secretary Dearborn ordered Butler to assign a “regular succession of parties of thirty or more...and that a road be opened, not exceeding sixteen feet in width...to be cut close to the ground...and smoothed for passengers.”⁶ Despite the orders, the military road was never completed, and the postal road remained largely unimproved.

Postmaster General Gideon Granger reported to President Thomas Jefferson on February 6, 1805 stating “a road was laid out and partly opened by the Secretary of War two years ago,” but the route still needed improvement.⁷ At the request of the

¹ Dawson Phelps, “Travel on the Natchez Trace, A Study of Its Economic Impact,” *Journal of Mississippi*, Vol. XV, No. 3, (July 1953): 161.

² United States Department of the Interior, *Natchez Trace Parkway Survey*, 1940 (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1941), 32.

³ Lena Mitchell Jamison. “The Natchez Trace: A Federal Highway in the Old Southwest.” *Journal of Mississippi History*, Vol I (Jan-Oct 1939): 83

⁴ *Natchez Trace Parkway Survey*, 33.

⁵ *Natchez Trace Parkway Survey*, 35-37.

⁶ Jamison, 92-93.

⁷ *Natchez Trace Parkway Survey*, 93.

Postmaster General, Congress appropriated \$6000 to survey and construct an improved road.

The first step was to survey the route to choose the best line of transit. Thomas Wright, the Chickasaw agent, inspected the entire route. The new post road largely followed the military road surveyed by Wilkinson's troops. At Postmaster General Granger's suggestion President Jefferson approved the route.

Granger posted an advertisement soliciting bids to construct the road from Natchez to Nashville. The advertisement that ran in the *Natchez, Mississippi Messenger* on November 4, 1806 included specifications for the road:

The road is to be cleared of all trees, logs and brush, twelve feet in width and made passable for a wagon. All streams not over forty feet wide are to be bridged, and the banks of other streams are to be shelved or sloped down so that they may be passable for a wagon. . . Some parts of the road will require causewaying. . . to be done with logs, 10 feet in length and not less than 6 or over 9 inches in diameter.⁸

George Haller, a Washington, D.C. resident, received the contract in February 1807.⁹ However, he soon subcontracted the work to Col. James Robertson, one of the founders of Nashville. Robertson's crew began work in 1807 and the road was largely completed by 1809. Of the total of \$6000 appropriated by Congress, about \$3000 was never spent and was reappropriated in 1809.¹⁰

The road was known by a variety of names depending on the region. In the southern area it was called the "post road" and "The Nashville Road." In Tennessee it was variously called "the Natchez Road" and the "Chickasaw Trace." The term Natchez Trace did not come into common usage until the late 19th century.

With the advent of steam-powered riverboats, the need for an overland post road between Natchez

and Nashville declined. The growth of towns off the route of the Natchez Trace also contributed to altered postal routes. By about 1830, sections of the Natchez Trace became incorporated into local road systems and travelers abandoned other segments totally.¹¹

The Natchez Trace Parkway

The Old Natchez Trace faded into memory, myth, and legend. The history of the old road may have languished had it not been for an organization dedicated to the promotion of history and national heritage, the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). In the early twentieth century, the Daughters began to mark historic roads. The idea came to Mississippi under the auspices of Elizabeth Jones of Holly Springs. Mrs. Jones proposed that the Daughters should erect stone markers to memorialize the Old Natchez Trace in each county traversed by the road "with appropriate descriptions."¹² When she became the state regent, it became an official program of the Mississippi organization.¹³ The first marker was placed on the bluff in Natchez near the terminus of the Old Trace in 1909. Over the next twenty-five years, the Daughters completed the project when the last marker was set in Leake County in 1933.¹⁴

The work of the DAR did not pass unnoticed. The newspapers covered the dedication ceremonies and the fame of the old highway spread. Many stories promoted the old myths about the Natchez Trace, but between 1910 and 1926 four articles appeared in local historical journals and one scholarly journal providing a basis for serious study of the historic route.¹⁵

The commemorative efforts of the DAR coincided with the national "good roads" movement and coalesced into a "Pave the Trace" movement in Mississippi. One person inspired by the DAR efforts was the self-styled "Colonel" Jim Walton, an itinerant journalist and promoter. Walton wrote a series of articles about the history of the

⁸ Jamison, 96.

⁹ *Natchez Trace Parkway Survey*, 47.

¹⁰ *Natchez Trace Parkway Survey*, 49.

¹¹ *Natchez Trace Parkway Survey*, 96.

¹² Dawson A. Phelps, "Genesis of the Natchez Trace Parkway," *The West Tennessee Historical Society Papers*, No. XIX (1965), 60.

¹³ Dawson A. Phelps. *The Administrative History of the Natchez Trace Parkway*. National Park Service, Park Histories (March 1965), https://www.nps.gov/parkhistory/online_books/natr/adhi.pdf.

¹⁴ Phelps, *Administrative History*, 11-3.

¹⁵ Phelps, *Genesis*, 62.

Developmental History

Natchez Trace, many of them wildly inaccurate. But Walton had a gift for organization and called for a meeting of patriotic organizations, good roads advocates, and local road commissioners in Jackson to create an organization to promote the paving of the Natchez Trace. The meeting in Jackson in January 1934 resulted in the creation of an organization which eventually became the Natchez Trace Association with the purpose of “memorialization of the Trace and the construction of a parkway along its route.”¹⁶

Mrs. Roane Fleming Byrnes of Natchez became the president of the Natchez Trace Association in 1934, an office she held until her death in 1970. Byrnes, with a keen sense of spectacle and drama, organized rallies, galas, and annual meetings to encourage construction of the parkway. She called on senators, congressmen, governors, legislators and road commissioners as well as artists, writers, poets and historians in her efforts to memorialize the Natchez Trace.¹⁷

Through the efforts of Walton, Byrnes, and the Natchez Trace Association, Mississippi Congressman Thomas Jefferson Busby was recruited to the effort. Although Busby doubted the significance of the old road, he requested the Library of Congress research the history. The results of the research convinced Busby of the merit of commemorating the history of the Old Trace. Busby surely knew that the National Recovery Act of 1933 provided for the federal funding of public works including highways and parkways.¹⁸ On February 14, 1934, Busby introduced two bills. The first called for \$50,000 for the National Park Service to survey the Old Natchez Trace. The second called for \$25,000,000 to construct the Natchez Trace Parkway. Senator Hubert Stephens introduced similar legislation in the United States Senate. Following a two-day hearing before the House Committee on Roads in March 1934, the legislation passed both houses.

When the Natchez Trace Parkway legislation faced a potential presidential veto, Busby arranged a meeting with President Franklin Roosevelt and congressional delegations from Mississippi, Alabama, and Tennessee. Mississippi Senator Pat

Harrison spoke for the group. Although no record of Harrison’s remarks exists, his role as Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee was crucial in Roosevelt’s legislative program. Roosevelt agreed not to veto the legislation and directed that the survey be funded from the 1935 National Park Service Roads and Trails appropriation.¹⁹

National Park Service historians, architects, landscape architects and engineers, assisted by engineers and surveyors from the Bureau of Roads, completed much of the survey work in 1935.²⁰ Relying on early township plats which showed the route of the Old Trace, the surveyors compared modern maps and the clear physical remains of Old Trace segments, the original route of the Natchez Trace was located. However, the survey showed that much of the old route was still in use as state numbered highways, county roads and city streets, all inappropriate for parkway use. NPS planners decided to

Construct a modern parkway of paved road...along the general route of, but not following exactly the original Trace...that it is important to preserve the original Trace and to give a fairly accurate conception of what it was when in full use.²¹

The Parkway would advance one of the National Park Service’s core resource values, recreation.²² With its “primary purpose...the memorialization of the historical importance of the Old Natchez Trace through a parkway that is both useful and attractive,” National Park Service planners determined that “the proposed parkway should parallel and pass historic sites as closely as existing conditions and the high technical standards of construction will permit.”²³ (Figure 3)

¹⁶ Phelps, *Administrative History*, IV-1.

¹⁷ Phelps, *Administrative History*, IV-2.

¹⁸ Phelps, *Genesis*, 64.

¹⁹ Phelps, *Administrative History*, III-4.

²⁰ *Natchez Trace Parkway Survey*, v.

²¹ *Natchez Trace Parkway Survey*, 144.

²² Phelps, *Administrative History*, VI-6.

²³ *Natchez Trace Parkway Survey*, 150.

The Ridgeland Information Cabin

In a letter to the United States Senate on the Natchez Trace Parkway Survey published in 1940, the Secretary of the Interior reported that seventy-one miles of the parkway were graded or under grading and surfacing contracts and that twenty-four miles were complete as to bituminous surfacing.²⁴ Most of the construction work completed before World War II involved grading and drainage. However, parkway planners began efforts at providing interpretation and motorist services in Ridgeland, MS. The earliest known drawing for the building was completed by the Natchez Trace Parkway Division of Architecture in 1940.²⁵ The planned building was a one-story log cabin with an open dogtrot.

A log cabin made perfect sense for an interpretive center on a parkway memorializing the Old Trace, a significant transportation route in the early 19th century Old Southwest. The log cabin had a long association with the settlement of the lower Mississippi Valley. Although historians dispute the origins of log construction in the United States, there is wide agreement that log structures were common, particularly in frontier regions. The materials were generally easy to locate with wide swaths of virgin forests covering much of the eastern United States. The method of construction also permitted a small labor force with limited tools to construct a relatively comfortable shelter quickly. Architectural historian Alison Hoagland wrote that “log cabins were widely known in America in 1700 and ubiquitous by 1800...among newer small towns and rural areas, log construction was more common, reaching 99 percent in some places. Probably half of Americans lived in log dwellings in 1800.”²⁶

Reliance on historical precedent in the design of park facilities was ingrained in NPS planners. Thomas Vint, a landscape architect, became head of the Branch of Plans and Design for the National Park Service in 1934. Vint advocated the rustic

style and encouraged planners to design buildings that would be harmonious with their settings.²⁷ In a 1949 meeting discussing the plans for the Ridgeland information cabin, Vint noted that a dogtrot and other period houses offered good precedents for Parkway architecture (Figure 4 and 5).²⁸



Figure 4. View of Benton cabin along Natchez Trace Parkway, circa 1813. Vernacular forms such as this may have formed a precedent for the cabin. (Source: *Building the Natchez Trace Parkway*, p.23.)



Figure 5. View of Joslin inn outside of Nashville served travelers on the Natchez Trace Parkway. (Source: *Building the Natchez Trace Parkway*, p.23.)

²⁴ *Natchez Trace Parkway Survey*, vi.

²⁵ Architectural drawings titled “Information Station, Ridgeland District Headquarters Sec. 3–0, Natchez Trace Parkway” for the Ridgeland Orientation Center, dated 12 May 1940 and labeled as drawing #2487-C within NPS records. Attached as Appendix A.

²⁶ Alison Hoagland, *The Log Cabin, An American Icon* (Charlottesville and London: The University of Virginia Press, 2018), 32.

²⁷ Hoagland, *The Log Cabin*, 199.

²⁸ Memo to Superintendent, May 16, 1949. D 3015, Construction Files Collection, NATR Acc# 277, 3-0, Ridgeland District Headquarters Development, Box 19, Folder 157, 1942-1964 Correspondence.



Figure 6. Site of Information Station before construction October 16, 1950. Source: Final Construction Report, Buildings and Incidental work, Ridgeland District Headquarters, Section 3-0, Ridgeland, Miss, Contract no. I-27-27np-333, November 15, 1951. D 2623, FRC Recalled Record Collection, NATR Acc#290, Project Completion Reports-Ridgeland, Box 3, Folder 36A. Natchez Trace Parkway, Tupelo, MS.



Figure 7. Information Station foundation during construction. January 16, 1951. Source: Final Construction Report, Buildings and Incidental work, Ridgeland District Headquarters, Section 3-0, Ridgeland, Miss, Contract no. I-27-27np-333, November 15, 1951. D 2623, FRC Recalled Record Collection, NATR Acc#290, Project Completion Reports-Ridgeland, Box 3, Folder 36A. Natchez Trace Parkway, Tupelo, MS.



Figure 8. Information Station during construction, June 21, 1951. Source: Final Construction Report, Buildings and Incidental work, Ridgeland District Headquarters, Section 3-0, Ridgeland, Miss, Contract no. I-27-27np-333, November 15, 1951. D 2623, FRC Recalled Record Collection, NATR Acc#290, Project Completion Reports-Ridgeland, Box 3, Folder 36A. Natchez Trace Parkway, Tupelo, MS.



Figure 9. Information Station during construction, August 2, 1951 Source: Final Construction Report, Buildings and Incidental work, Ridgeland District Headquarters, Section 3-0, Ridgeland, Miss, Contract no. I-27-27np-333, November 15, 1951. D 2623, FRC Recalled Record Collection, NATR Acc#290, Project Completion Reports-Ridgeland, Box 3, Folder 36A. Natchez Trace Parkway, Tupelo, MS.



Figure 10. Information Station after completion. 1951. Source: Final Construction Report, Buildings and Incidental work, Ridgeland District Headquarters, Section 3-0, Ridgeland, Miss, Contract no. I-27-27np-333, November 15, 1951. D 2623, FRC Recalled Record Collection, NATR Acc#290, Project Completion Reports-Ridgeland, Box 3, Folder 36A. Natchez Trace Parkway, Tupelo, MS.



Figure 11. Interior of Exhibit Room, Information Station. 1951 Source: Final Construction Report, Buildings and Incidental work, Ridgeland District Headquarters, Section 3-0, Ridgeland, Miss, Contract no. I-27-27np-333, November 15, 1951. D 2623, FRC Recalled Record Collection, NATR Acc#290, Project Completion Reports-Ridgeland, Box 3, Folder 36A. Natchez Trace Parkway, Tupelo, MS.

Although Vint did not specify any particular property, one example of period architecture stands out. Mount Locust, located at Milepost 15.5 of the Parkway is one of the oldest buildings on the Trace and the only surviving example of the stands, or inns, that lined the route (Figure 12). However, Mount Locust is not a log cabin, but rather a frame structure. The oldest portion of the house was completed by 1785 and consisted of single room, 16x20 feet, with two cabinet rooms and galleries and a hip roof.²⁹ An addition in c.1799 added two rooms to the east end of the building.³⁰ It is likely the gable roof dates to that time. The final additions were made in the 1840s and include extensions to the eastern rooms, an enlargement of the original room, enclosure of the rear gallery to create two additional rooms and the construction of a new rear gallery.³¹ There were no other structural changes to the house before it came into National Park Service ownership in 1937. Multiple outbuildings including a kitchen, guest house, slave quarters and an overseer's cabin are nonextant. Based on extensive historical, architectural and archaeological studies, the National Park Service decided to restore Mount Locust to its c.1820 configuration and restoration work was completed in 1955-1956.

Mount Locust, although not a log cabin, is an important example of the type of buildings found by early travelers on the Old Natchez Trace. NPS historian Dawson Phillips concluded the "no other site or object is more directly associated with the Natchez Trace, throughout its history, than is Mount Locust."³² Similarities between Mount Locust and the Ridgeland Information Cabin abound. Both buildings are single-story with a gable roof clad in cedar shingles. They share a full-length front gallery. Both buildings have external brick chimneys, although the Ridgeland Information Cabin has chimneys on both gable ends. Common details include 9/6 double hung windows and board and batten doors. The interior

sheathing, wainscoting and exposed ceiling beams found in the Ridgeland Information Cabin are similar to the interior details in the central room at Mount Locust (Figure 11 and Figure 13). The buildings share herring-bone brick walks.³³

Mount Locust is mentioned here because we suggest that it served as a precedent for the Ridgeland Information Cabin. Mount Locust was surveyed and documented in 1938 by the WPA. Robert Smith, the architect who would go on to design the Ridgeland Information Cabin in 1940, was involved with stabilization and documentation efforts at Mount Locust and would have known it well.³⁴

No additional information is known about Robert Smith other than he oversaw the building of the Ridgeland Information Cabin through to completion, as evidenced by the documentation in the final completion report in 1951. He is not included in the Administrative History of the Park, which includes a thorough discussion of historic staff identities. Research constraints, including his common name, left investigation of him unexplored. Robert Smith is an area of possible future research.

²⁹ Dawson A. Phelps, "Mount Locust: A Restudy of Its History." Natchez Trace Parkway, May 17, 1955. Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, MS, 720.9762261 P538m, p. 5.

³⁰ Sam Kaye, "Historic Structures Report: Mount Locust House, Natchez trace Parkway, Jefferson County, Mississippi," 1998, p. 6. Natchez Trace Parkway Archives, Tupelo, MS.

³¹ Kaye, "Historic Structures Report: Mount Locust House.," p. 6.

³² Phelps, "Mount Locust," p. 19.

³³ "Mound Plantation, Cannonsburg Vicinity, Jefferson County, Mississippi." Survey (photographs, measured drawings, written historical and descriptive data), Historic American Building Survey, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1940. From Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress (HABS MISS, 32-Canb.V.1) <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/hh/item/MS0048/> accessed January 31, 2020.

³⁴ Kaye, "Historic Structures Report: Mount Locust House.," p. x.



Figure 12. View of Mount Locust Inn, after restoration. 1972. Mount Locust was referred to in HABS HAER documentation as Mound Plantation. "Mound Plantation, Cannonsburg Vicinity, Jefferson County, Mississippi. Survey (photographs, measured drawings, written historical and descriptive information), Historic American Buildings Survey, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1940. From Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress (HABS MISS, 32-Canb. V1/ <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collections/hh/item/MS0048/>), accessed January 31, 2020.



Figure 13. View of interior of Mount Locust Inn, after restoration. 1972. The Ridgeland Information Cabin has features in common including treatment of interior wall boards and wainscot, 9-over-6 window sash, and exposed beams at ceiling. *Source:* "Mound Plantation, Cannonsburg Vicinity, Jefferson County, Mississippi. Survey Historic American Buildings Survey, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1940. From Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress (HABS MISS, 32-Canb. V1/ <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collections/hh/item/MS0048/>), accessed January 31, 2020.

Chronology of Development and Use

1940-1951

Construction of the Natchez Trace Parkway halted during World War II but began again in 1947 and progressed rapidly through the mid-1950s.¹ A major project involved the construction of a district maintenance facility in Ridgeland, which included the Ridgeland information cabin. Architects in the Parkway's Design and Construction Division prepared the drawings, plans and specifications for the information cabin. The cabin was part of a larger contract for the Ridgeland maintenance headquarters so some details regarding the costs of construction are obscured. However, the Parkway allotted \$30,000 to the construction of the cabin. L. A. Harvey, Contractor, Jackson, MS won the contract. Work began on September 18, 1950 with the cabin completed on October 30, 1951.³⁵

The Ridgeland Information Cabin, as completed, was a one-story log building with an open dogtrot and a double pitched roof with full-length covered porches on the north and south elevations. The two pens were 2240 square feet. Exterior brick chimneys were centered on the east and west elevations. The building contained an exhibit room, a women's rest room, a men's restroom, a storage room, and a utility room. The foundation was bored, cast-in-place reinforced concrete. Sand finished hand cast bricks composed the chimneys, porch floors and walkways. Exterior walls were hand-adzed 6x12 oak timbers, stained weathered grey, with masonry chinking and half-dovetail corner notching. The interior walls of the exhibit room were covered with random width bead board and the exposed undersides of the attic floor. Floors were random width heart pine boards. Doors were board and batted while the 9/6 double-hung windows were constructed of long leaf yellow pine. The roof was covered in hand-split cedar shingles.³⁶

A grand dedication ceremony marked the opening of the Ridgeland Information Cabin and the first sixty-four-mile segment of the Natchez Trace Parkway between Ridgeland and Kosciusko. Roane Fleming Byrnes, president of the Natchez Trace Association, presided over the November 5, 1951 ceremony. Three Mississippi Congressmen and representatives of the Natchez Trace Parkway and the National Park Service attended. Mrs. Byrnes cut the dedication ribbon held by Jackson Mayor Allen G. Thompson and Kosciusko Mayor Alton Massey (Figure 21). A parade and luncheon closed the festivities.³⁷

1951-1975

With \$6000 of exhibits installed in the cabin, the small museum opened in 1951 but was not regularly staffed until 1972. The use of seasonal employees and volunteers allowed seven-day staffing.³⁸ In 1975, the Natchez Trace Parkway granted a concession to the Craftsmen's Guild of Mississippi to operate the Ridgeland Crafts Center. The Crafts Center sold Mississippi crafts, held demonstrations and workshops and sponsored craft festivals at the cabin.

1975-2009

The Craft Center operated until 2007 when the Craftsmen's Guild moved to a new site. The National Park Service completed a \$150,000 restoration in 2009 which included changes to the sidewalk to make the building accessible. The existing brick path was removed. Fill and grading was conducted to bring the ground level back to the 1951 grade. The paths were rebuilt in their original locations using original bricks. Handrails were added. The wood floors were refinished. A storage closet was converted to a men's restroom. The original men's restroom was converted into an accessible family restroom. The restroom interiors were renovated with new tile and fixtures. Electrical wiring was updated and HVAC installed. The cabin reopened in August 2009³⁹ and continues to operate as a visitor center.

³⁵ Final Construction Report, Buildings and Incidental Work, Ridgeland District Headquarters, Section 3-0, Ridgeland, Miss, Contract No. I-27-np-333, November 15, 1951. D 2623, FRC Recalled Record Collection, NATR Acc# 290, Project Completion Reports-Ridgeland. Box 3, Folder 36 A, 1951.

³⁶ Final Construction Report.

³⁷ "Three Congressmen Speak at Ridgeland Thursday in Dedication of Natchez Trace." *Jackson Daily News*, November 5, 1951.

³⁸ Phelps, *Administrative History*, X-5.

³⁹ "Natchez Trace Craft Center Reopens." *Jackson Clarion-Ledger*, August 22, 2009.

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Building Chronology

	Old Trace animal trails, Native American route, unimproved trail from Natchez to Nashville
1800	US Congress designates a post road between Nashville and Natchez
1807-1809	Post road constructed
1909-1933	Daughters of the American Revolution place markers to memorialize the Old Natchez Trace
1934	Natchez Trace Association founded
1935	National Park Service and Bureau of Roads complete survey of Old Trace
1940	Grading and drainage improvements begun for Natchez Trace Parkway. Robert Smith, NPS Architectural Division in Tupelo, MS completes drawings for an Information Station.
	World War II
1947	Work on the Parkway resumes after the war.
1950	\$30,000 allotted for the construction of the cabin. L.A. Harvey begins work on the construction on September 19, 1950.
1951	Cabin completed October 30, 1951. Museum opens.
1972	Regular staffing of museum and visitor center.
1975	Concession granted to Mississippi Crafts Center
2007	Craft center relocates to another site.
2009	Upgrades made to accessibility, restrooms, exhibits and retail area.
2013	Foundation heaved causing plumbing to fail.
2015	Burns Cooley Dennis Geotechnical Investigation
2019	Historic Structure Report survey

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Physical Description

Overview

Designed in 1940 and constructed in 1951, the Ridgeland Information Cabin was built to resemble the vernacular log houses constructed for the early settlers and travelers along the Natchez Trace. The log cabin had a long association with the settlement of the Lower Mississippi Valley. The picturesque cabin was intended to convey this early history of the Old Trace.

Although the appearance is of a rustic log cabin using natural materials, the 1951 building was constructed on a concrete slab with 30-foot deep concrete piles and grade beams. The interior partitions of the utilitarian “pen” are constructed of hollow clay tile.

Methodology

The Ridgeland Information Cabin was surveyed by Mills + Schnoering Architects, LLC, SGH (Structural Engineers), and William Gatlin (Historian) on October 31st, 2019. Prior to the survey, the original 1940 construction drawings were reviewed.

Observations were recorded graphically and photographically. Measurements were taken throughout the structure to confirm measurements and to document original building details. Measurements were also taken of the floor slopes and general alignment of the building’s elements in an effort to understand the unique settlement observed at the floor slab.

Following the initial survey, a contract modification was executed so that additional geotechnical investigation could be performed by Burns Cooley Dennis (BCD) of Ridgeland, Mississippi. On June 5th, 2020, Matthew J. Daw of SGH joined BCD on a teleconference call during

the excavation of two test pits beneath the concrete foundation and a follow-up report was issued by BCD (see Appendix I).

Siting

The Ridgeland Information Cabin is located along the Parkway at milepost 102.4 in Ridgeland, Mississippi, just east of I-55 and Hwy. 51 (Figure 14). At the time of construction, the site was cleared and there was little to no landscaping around the cabin. Today, the cabin is nestled within a group of large pine trees and shrubs. There is an access drive and a small parking lot adjacent to the cabin that serves as a trailhead for the Ridgeland Multi-Use Path.



Figure 14. Overall view of cabin from the northwest. All photographs in this chapter were taken October 31, 2019, unless otherwise noted.

Massing

The Ridgeland Information Cabin is a one story, double pen log cabin with dogtrot with a gable roof and full width porches at front and rear (Figure 15).

Physical Description



Figure 15. View of north elevation looking through dogtrot.



Figure 17. View of west elevation of the cabin from the northwest.

Building Exterior

The north elevation of the cabin faces the Parkway and is set back from the roadway approximately 85 feet (Figure 16).



Figure 16. Overall view of cabin from the northeast.

The cabin is seven bays wide by four bays deep and has an overall dimension of 64 feet by 35 feet.

A 10-foot wide, open dogtrot is located in the third bay from the east (Figure 18 and 19).

The roof is a cedar shake gable roof with a full width shed roof at the front and back porches. There are two brick chimneys at each end (Figure 17 and 20).

The exterior walls are adzed oak logs with chinking and half dovetail joints. There are oak clapboards in the gable and square porch posts. The wood elements have been painted a light gray (Figure 18).

There are 9-over-6 wood double hung windows throughout. Two original board and batten long leaf yellow pine doors remain in the Exhibit Room that are fixed closed. The other entrance doors to the Exhibit Room and toilet/utility pens have been replaced with solid core flush doors that simulate board and batten doors.

The porches have open framing with exposed painted sheathing. The ceiling of the dogtrot is the exposed underside of the attic floor and features random width beaded boards.

The porches and pathways are sand finished hand-made red brick, as are the brick chimneys. The Final Construction report indicates that “the contractor was not able to find acceptable new hand-made sand finished bricks for the Information Station; however, after extensive searching, acceptable bricks were found and selected from an old building.”¹ The brick in the chimneys has grapevine tooled mortar joints.

The chimneys have been capped and the base flashing has been replaced.

¹ A final construction report titled “Buildings and Incidental Work, Ridgeland District Headquarters, Section 3-0, Ridgeland, Mississippi, Contract No. I-27np-333, Final Construction Report,” written by Robert E. Smith,

Architect, on 15 November 1951. Attached as Appendix B., page 13.



Figure 18. South elevation.

There are wood louvers with an angled top frame on either side of the chimney in each gable end clapboard wall.

There are wood rain troughs located at the eave above the main entrance path at the south and at the end of the dogtrot at the north.

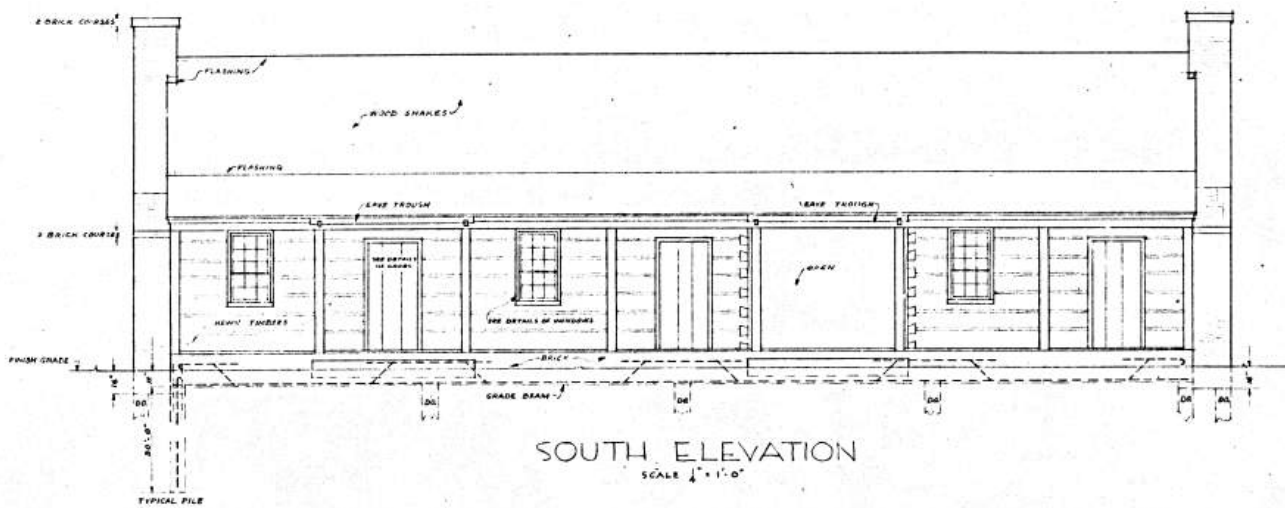


Figure 19. South elevation of original 1940 drawing.

Physical Description

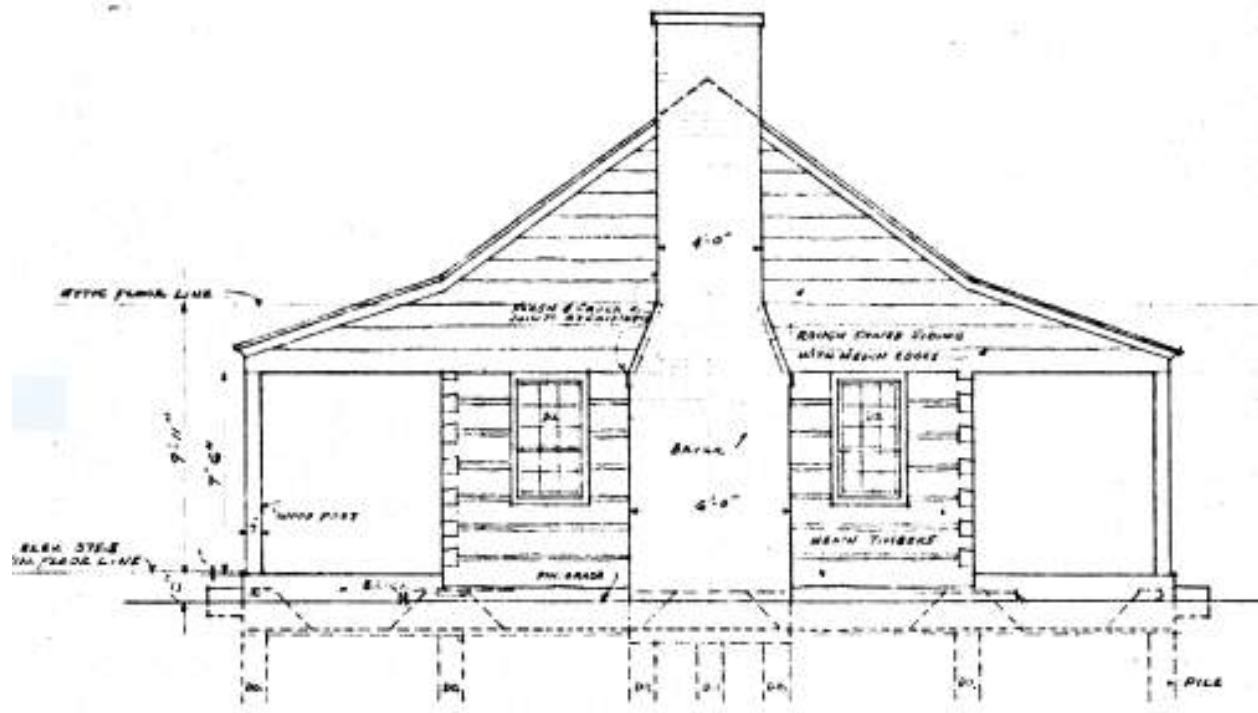


Figure 20. West Elevation from original 1940 drawings.



Figure 21. Exterior view from dedication in 1951 looking towards the south entrance to the Exhibit Room. Note contrast between color of logs and chinking. Note original lighting fixture. Wood rain trough and screen door are missing but hinges for screen door are present at the door jamb at left. Source: Interpretive Photographic Collection, Number 9266, Natchez Trace Parkway Archives, Tupelo, MS. 1951.

Interior

Exhibit Room



Figure 22. Exhibit Room after completion in 1951. Source: Final Construction Report, Buildings and Incidental work, Ridgeland District Headquarters, Section 3-0, Ridgeland, Miss, Contract no. I-27-27np-333, November 15, 1951. D 2623, FRC Recalled Record Collection, NATR Acc#290, Project Completion Reports-Ridgeland, Box 3, Folder 36A. Natchez Trace Parkway, Tupelo, MS.

The Exhibit Room is the primary space and is a large rectangular room (18'-6" x 34'-0") used for an information desk, gift shop, and exhibit area. The walls and ceiling are random width bead board.² The boards are laid horizontally at the wainscot and capped with a simple chair rail at the same level as the windowsills. The boards above the wainscot are laid vertically. The ceiling also features exposed wood beams (Figures 22, 23, 25, 26). A fireplace is located on center at the west wall and has a simple brick hearth. The simple wood mantel was added after the original construction (Figure 24).

The room has four windows, two fixed doors and two operable doors. A large wall exhibit wraps around the east end in front of the fixed doors (Figure 28).

The ceiling has three original lighting fixtures combined with air diffusers for air conditioning (Figure 29). Brass finished track lighting has been added to the exposed wood beams. Electric wall heaters are located below each window and have been covered with a wood panel (Figure 27). The 9-over-6 windows have wood valances mounted to the window heads and vinyl shades.

² The Final Completion Report does not reference the material of the interior walls however the doors and windows were indicated to be long leaf yellow pine.

Physical Description



Figure 23. Current view of Exhibition Room.



Figure 24. View of fireplace. The mantel shelf does not appear in earliest photograph of room.



Figure 25. Detail view of interior horizontal boards at wainscot, board and batten doors, and refinished floor.



Figure 26. Detail view of exposed wood beams, random width ceiling boards, and vertical wood paneling at upper walls.

Physical Description



Figure 27. Wood covers have been placed over the original electric heaters.



Figure 29. View of ceiling showing original lighting fixture and air diffuser. The brass track lighting was added at a later date.



Figure 28. View of exhibits in room.

Women's Toilet Room

The Women's Toilet Room is located on the south side and is accessed by a door off of the dogtrot. The square room retains its original location, layout, and window. The finishes, fixtures, toilet partitions and countertops and door were replaced in 2009 (Figure 30). Photographs prior to the start of the 2009 work show that the floor was red quarry tile and that the original in-swinging door was in place. The interior partition walls are constructed of hollow clay tile. The window has obscure glass.

Men's Toilet Room

The Men's Toilet Room is located on the north side and is accessed by a door off the dogtrot. The dimensions of the square room have not changed however, the room was converted from a storage room to the Men's Toilet Room in 2009. Tile was added to the original concrete floors and fixtures, toilet partitions, counter and plumbing were added. The window is the only original feature. The obscure glass may have been added when the space was converted to a toilet room. The access panel in the ceiling for attic access retains its original location. The interior partition walls are constructed of hollow clay tile.

Accessible Family Restroom

The Accessible Family Restroom is located on the south side and is accessed by a door off the south porch. The dimensions of the room have not changed however, the room was converted from the Men's Toilet Room to its current use in 2009. The finishes, fixtures, and door were replaced. The window is the only original feature. It has two types of obscure glass. The interior partition walls are constructed of hollow clay tile (Figure 31).



Figure 30. View of Women's Toilet Room.



Figure 31. View of Accessible Family Restroom.

Physical Description

Utility Room

The Utility Room is located in the northeast corner and is accessed by a door off of the north porch. The room retains its original dimensions and function. The interior partitions are hollow clay tile. The floors are exposed concrete, and the wall and ceiling are finished with gypsum plaster on metal lath (Figure 32). The window is original and has clear glass. The door was replaced with a solid core flush door.



Figure 32. View of Utility Room.

Please see Inventory for equipment and additional details.

Attic

The attic space is unfinished and is open the full length of the building. The attic is accessed through an access hatch in the ceiling of the Men's Toilet Room. The attic floor framing is 2" x 8", 16" on center. The floor is 2" thick tongue and groove wood boards covered with fiberglass batt insulation (Figure 33 and 34). The gable end walls are diagonal wood board sheathing. There is a central brick chimney at each end wall and wood louvers at either side. The louvers are not original. The roof framing is exposed wood 2" x 8" s 16" on center braced with 2" x 6" boards. The roof sheathing is wood boards. The ridge beam is 3" x 10".

There is insulated ductwork, sanitary vent pipe, conduit, and wiring throughout the space.



Figure 33. General view of attic.



Figure 34. View of attic floor decking over Men's Toilet Room.

No.	Feature and Designation if Applicable	Description	Approx. Age	Period	Documentation for Determining Age	Comments	C-Contributing/ NC-Non-Contributing
Masonry							
1	Brick Masonry - Brick 1	Chimney - Sand finished hand-made bricks	1951	Period 1	Brick does not appear to have been replaced and is described in Final Construction Report by Robert E. Smith, Architect.	Final Completion Report, p. 13 indicates that bricks were reused from an older building. Flemish bond with rough flush mortar joint with rodged "grapevine" tooling.	C
2	Brick Masonry - Brick 2	Porch floor - Sand finished hand-made bricks	1951	Period 1	Same as above	Herringbone pattern	C
3	Brick Masonry - Brick 3	Brick walk at south	1951/2009		Letter dated March 6th, 2009 from Gordon Wilson, Acting Superintendent to H.T. Holmes, State of Mississippi Historic Preservation Office	Original salvaged bricks from walk were used to create new accessible entry path; Herringbone pattern	C
Exterior Walls							
4	Log construction	Oak timbers 6" x 12", adzed on exposed surfaces to simulate hewn logs	1951	Period 1	Logs do not appear to have been replaced and are described in Final Construction Report by Robert E. Smith, Architect.		C
		Chinking				Joints have a 2" x 4" spline and are chinked with mortar. Chinking in east and west wall appears to have been replaced.	C
		Finish			Completion report indicates that, "All exterior woodwork is stained weathered grey."	Logs have been painted. A paint analysis should be completed to determine the original and subsequent finish history to determine contributing or non-contributing.	C
5	Siding	Oak clapboard	1951	Period 1			C
		Finish				Clapboard is painted white. A paint analysis should be completed to determine the original and subsequent finish history to determine contributing or non-contributing.	
6	Wood porch posts	7" square; oak post	1951	Period 1			C

No.	Feature and Designation if Applicable	Description	Approx. Age	Period	Documentation for Determining Age	Comments	C-Contributing/ NC- Non-Contributing
		Finish				The posts are painted light gray. A paint analysis should be completed to determine the original and subsequent finish history to determine contributing or non-contributing.	
7	Wood trim	Oak	1951	Period 1			C
		Finish				The wood trim is painted light gray. A paint analysis should be completed to determine the original and subsequent finish history to determine contributing or non-contributing.	

No.	Feature and Designation if Applicable	Description	Approx. Age	Period	Documentation for Determining Age	Comments	C-Contributing/ NC-Non-Contributing
Windows							
6	W101, W102, W105, W107, W108, W109	Nine-over-six double hung wood window set in wood window frame.	1951	Period 1	No evidence that windows have been replaced. Material described in Final Construction Report by Robert E. Smith, Architect.	Long leaf yellow pine painted exterior and transparent finish at interior.	C
7	W103, W104, W106	Nine-over-six double hung wood window set in wood window frame.	1951	Period 1	No evidence that windows have been replaced. Same as above.	Long leaf yellow pine painted exterior and interior; Obscure glass at W103 and W104 was likely original as these were originally bathrooms. The obscure glass at W106 may have been added when the room was converted from a Storage Room to a Toilet Room. Some panes in W104 have been replaced with a different type of obscure glass.	C
8	Exterior window finish	Paint (light gray)				A paint analysis should be completed to determine the original and subsequent finish history to determine contributing or non-contributing.	
Doors							
9	D102, D105	Fixed in place, board and batten, Long leaf yellow pine door	1951	Period 1	No evidence that these doors have been replaced. Material described in Final Construction Report by Robert E. Smith, Architect.	These two doors along with D106 were originally fixed in place. As a result they may never have had operating hardware or iron strap hinges, as are shown on the original drawings. Completion photographs from 1951 do not show iron strap hinges on the doors.	C
10	D101, D103, D104, D106, D107, D108	Wood veneered solid core flush door; 1/4" grooved plywood applied to door surface to simulate vertical boards.	2009		These doors have been altered from the original board and batten doors in the original drawings. In addition they have been mounted at the exterior of the frame and swing out rather than in.	The drawings also indicate that the main door to the Exhibit Room D101 originally had an out swinging screen door.	NC

No.	Feature and Designation if Applicable	Description	Approx. Age	Period	Documentation for Determining Age	Comments	C-Contributing/ NC- Non-Contributing
10	Exterior door finish	Paint (light gray)				A paint analysis should be completed to determine the original and subsequent finish history to determine contributing or non-contributing	

No.	Feature and Designation if Applicable	Description	Approx. Age	Period	Documentation for Determining Age	Comments	C-Contributing/ NC- Non-Contributing
Roof							
11	Wood roof construction	Rafters and sheathing	1951	Period 1	No evidence that roof framing or sheathing has been replaced in main gable. Sheathing in localized area of shed roof at north appears to have been replaced.		C
		Cedar shakes	?		The roof has likely been replaced at least once since the original construction.	Roofing described originally as hand split cedar shakes.	C
		Metal flashing	?			Original step flashing has been replaced with straight run flashing. Final completion report indicates that the originally specified copper was substituted with galvanized on two of the buildings, but it does not specify which.	NC
Dog Trot							
	Plan	Open passage	1951	Period 1			C
	Floor	Brick	1951	Period 1			C
	Walls	Log	1951	Period 1			C
	Ceiling	Random width beaded board (exposed underside of attic tongue and groove floor), painted	1951	Period 1			C
	Lighting	Wall sconce				Modern replacement fixtures do not match lighting fixtures from historic images.	NC
	Drinking fountain	Wall mounted concrete with exposed aggregate.			?		NC

No.	Feature and Designation if Applicable	Description	Approx. Age	Period	Documentation for Determining Age	Comments	C-Contributing/ NC-Non-Contributing
Exhibit Room							
	Room Plan	Large rectangular	1951	Period 1	Original building plans		C
	Flooring	Random width heart pine boards	1951	Period 1		Floors were refinished in 2009.	C
	Base	Quarter round	?			Appears to be contemporary with wall.	
	Wood wall paneling - North, south, east and west	Random width beaded board on furring; boards at wainscot are laid horizontally. The boards are laid vertically above the wainscot.	1951	Period 1		The wood type is not identified in the final completion report. The doors are noted as long leaf yellow pine. The appearance of the boards is also similar to cypress.	C
		Insulation at furring					C
		Finish				Final completion report indicates that interior woodwork is stained light grey. This finish appears to have been stripped.	
	Fireplace	Brick surround and hearth	1951	Period 1	Final completion report photographs	Mantel was added after original construction.	C
	D102, D105	Fixed in place, board and batten, Long leaf yellow pine door	1951	Period 1	No evidence that these doors have been replaced. Material described in Final Construction Report by Robert E. Smith, Architect.	These two doors along with D106 were originally fixed in place. As a result they may never have had operating hardware or iron strap hinges.	C
	D101, D106	Wood veneered solid core door ; 2 1/4" thick, See description elsewhere.	2009		These doors have been altered from the original board and batten doors in the original drawings. In addition they have been mounted at the exterior of the frame and swing out rather than in. Probably code improvements in 2009.	The drawings also indicate that D101 originally had an out swinging screen door. D106 inoperable due to changes in floor slope/settlement.	NC
	Window	Nine-over-six double hung wood window set in wood window frame. (W101,W102, W107, W108, W109)	1951	Period 1			C
	Wood ceiling paneling	Random width beaded board (exposed underside of attic lounge and groove floor) Exposed wood beams	1951	Period 1		2" thick tongue and groove	C
		Insulation at attic floor					NC
		Ceiling grilles					

No.	Feature and Designation if Applicable	Description	Approx. Age	Period	Documentation for Determining Age	Comments	C-Contributing/ NC- Non-Contributing
	Lighting	Flush mounted (3) with air diffuser	1951	Period 1	Original building plans		C
		Track lighting					NC
	Electric wall heater		1951	Period 1	Original building plans	Wood covers have been added.	NC

No.	Feature and Designation if Applicable	Description	Approx. Age	Period	Documentation for Determining Age	Comments	C-Contributing/ NC- Non-Contributing
Women's Toilet Room							
	Room Plan	Small square	1951	Period 1	Original building plans		C
	Flooring	Ceramic tile - 2" x 2"	2009		Letter dated March 6th, 2009 from Gordon Wilson, Acting Superintendent to H.T. Holmes, State of Mississippi Historic Preservation Office		NC
	Wall	Gypsum plaster, painted on metal lath at exterior walls (structural hollow clay tile at interior walls)	1951				C
	Wall - wainscot	Glazed tile -square 4" x 4"	2009		Same as above		NC
	Door	Wood veneered solid core flush door (D108)	2009				NC
	Window	Nine-over-six double hung wood window set in wood window frame. (W103)	1951	Period 1		Painted at interior. Obscure glass.	C
	Ceiling	Gypsum plaster, smooth finish, painted	1951				C
	Lighting						NC
	Electric wall heater		1951	Period 1	Original building plans		NC
	Fixtures and partitions	Solid phenolic partitions and countertops	2009		Letter dated March 6th, 2009 from Gordon Wilson, Acting Superintendent to H.T. Holmes, State of Mississippi Historic Preservation Office		NC
		Lavatories (2)	2009		Same as above	Toilets have been removed.	NC
		Mirror at North wall	2009		Same as above		NC
		Exhaust fan	2009		Same as above		NC

No.	Feature and Designation if Applicable	Description	Approx. Age	Period	Documentation for Determining Age	Comments	C-Contributing/ NC- Non-Contributing
Accessible Toilet Room (Originally Men's Toilet Room)							
	Room Plan	Small rectangular	1951	Period 1	Original building plans		C
	Flooring	Ceramic tile - 2" x 2"	2009		Letter dated March 6th, 2009 from Gordon Wilson, Acting Superintendent to H.T. Holmes, State of Mississippi Historic Preservation Office		NC
	Wall	Gypsum plaster, painted on metal lath at exterior walls (structural hollow clay tile at interior walls)	1951				C
	Wall - wainscot	Glazed tile -square 4" x 4"	2009		Same as above		NC
	Door	Wood veneered solid core flush door (D103)	2009				NC
	Window	Nine-over-six double hung wood window set in wood window frame. (W104)	1951	Period 1		Painted at interior. Obscure glass.	C
	Ceiling	Gypsum plaster, smooth finish, painted	1951				C
	Lighting						NC
	Electric wall heater		1951	Period 1	Original building plans		NC
	Fixtures and partitions	Urinal	2009		Same as above		NC
		Toilet				Toilet partition removed to make space accessible.	NC
		Wall hung lavatory	2009			North wall	NC

No.	Feature and Designation if Applicable	Description	Approx. Age	Period	Documentation for Determining Age	Comments	C-Contributing/ NC- Non-Contributing
Men's Toilet Room (Originally Storage Room)							
	Room Plan	Small square	1951	Period 1	Original building plans		C
	Flooring	Ceramic tile - 2" x 2"	2009		Letter dated March 6th, 2009 from Gordon Wilson, Acting Superintendent to H.T. Holmes, State of Mississippi Historic Preservation Office		NC
	Wall	Gypsum plaster, painted on metal lath at exterior walls (structural hollow clay tile at interior walls)	1951			Metal framed mirror	C
	Wall - wainscot	Glazed tile - square 4" x 4"	2009		Same as above		NC
	Door	Wood veneered solid core flush door (D107)	2009				NC
	Window	Nine-over-six double hung wood window set in wood window frame. (W106)	1951	Period 1	Original building plans	Painted at interior. Obscure glass. Good condition.	C
	Ceiling	Gypsum plaster, smooth finish, painted	1951				C
		Access panel for attic access	1951		Original building plans		
	Lighting						NC
	Electric heater		1951	Period 1	Original building plans		NC
	Fixtures and partitions	Solid phenolic partitions and countertop	2009		Letter dated March 6th, 2009 from Gordon Wilson, Acting Superintendent to H.T. Holmes, State of Mississippi Historic Preservation Office		NC
		Lavatory	2009		Same as above		NC
		Water closet	2009		Same as above		NC
		Urinals (2)	2009		Same as above		NC
		Exhaust fan	2009		Same as above		NC
		Electric hand dryer	2009		Same as above		NC

No.	Feature and Designation if Applicable	Description	Approx. Age	Period	Documentation for Determining Age	Comments	C-Contributing/ NC- Non-Contributing
Utility Room							
	Room Plan	Small rectangular	1951	Period 1	Original building plans		C
	Flooring	Exposed concrete	1951	Period 1	Original building plans		C
	Wall	Gypsum plaster, painted on metal lath at exterior walls (structural hollow clay tile at interior walls)	1951	Period 1	Original building plans		C
	Door	Wood veneered solid core flush door (D104)	2009				NC
	Window	Nine-over-six double hung wood window set in wood window frame. (W105)	1951	Period 1		Painted at interior.	C
	Ceiling	Gypsum plaster, smooth finish, painted	1951				C
	Lighting	Fluorescent ceiling light					NC
	MEP equipment	HVAC - Trane Model 4TEC3F 4BB 1000AA 1/2 hp motor, 2.7 FL amps 200-230 volts	2009			plenum below	NC
		Electric heater 240 volts	1951	Period 1	Original building plans		NC
		Water treatment unit					NC
		Refrigerator					NC
		Fire/intrusion alarm panel - (Honeywell Silent Knight)					NC
		Electrical panel - Siemens 63030L 1200					NC
		Electric meter				Northeast corner (exterior)	NC
		Telephone				Northeast corner	NC
		Smoke detector					NC

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Significance Evaluation

National Register of Historic Places

The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of the nation's historic places worthy of preservation. Authorized by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect America's historic and archeological resources.

The significance evaluation identifies the important historical associations of the property, and comments on its architectural, archeological, and social value as they relate to the National Register of Historic Places. A property's significance is tied to a discrete period of time in which its important contributions were made and its relevant national, state, and local historical contexts.

Significance Criteria

In order for a property to be eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places, it must possess significance under one of four criteria. The Criteria for Evaluation for listing in the national Register of Historic Places states:

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A. That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the board patterns of our history; or
- B. That are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- C. That embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. That has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in pre-history or history.

Criteria Considerations

Ordinarily cemeteries, birthplaces, graves, of historical figures, properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes, structures that have been moved from their original locations, reconstructed historic buildings, properties that have achieved significance in the past 50 years shall not be considered eligible for the National Register. However, such properties *will qualify* if they are integral parts of districts that do meet the criteria or if they fall within the following categories:

- a. A religious property deriving primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance; or
- b. A building or structure removed from its original location but which is significance primarily for architectural value, or which is the surviving structure most importantly associated with historic person or event; or
- c. A birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance if there is no appropriate site or building directly associated with his or her productive life; or
- d. A cemetery which derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events; or
- e. A reconstructed building when accurately executed in a suitable environment and presented in a dignified manner as part of a restoration master plan, and when no other building or structure with the same associated has survived; or
- f. A property primarily commemorative in intent if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own exceptional significance; or
- g. A property achieving significance within the past 50 years if it is of exceptional importance.¹

¹ Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Part 60 "The National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

National Register of Historic Places Eligibility

The Ridgeland Information Cabin is not listed on the National Register of Historic Places. On June 24, 2004, the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places entered a Determination of Eligibility (DOE) that portions of the Parkway were eligible for listing on the NHRP. The DOE noted that the “parkway is significant for association with planning and development of a national parkway system during the New Deal era and as an example of naturalistic parkway design.” Although the DOE applies only to sections of the Parkway in Tennessee, the Keeper did state that it appears that the “entire length of the Natchez Trace Parkway in Mississippi, Alabama, and Tennessee may be eligible for listing in the National Register.”²

When the Parkway planned the repair and restoration work at the cabin after the end of the Mississippi Craftsmen’s Guild occupancy in 2007, they consulted with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH), the state’s historic preservation office. After review of the project MDAH issued a letter dated May 25, 2009 concluding that the cabin is eligible for listing on the NRHP as “a contributing resource associated with the Natchez Trace Parkway’s development.”³

The cabin is eligible for the NRHP as a contributing resource to a larger Parkway listing under Criterion A and C for association with planning and development of the Natchez Trace Parkway. The cabin may also be individually eligible under Criterion C as a mid-twentieth century example of park service rustic architecture. Although the cabin was not constructed until 1951 and park service rustic architecture period is considered to end in 1942, it was designed in 1940 and appears to fit within this period.

We recommend that a National Register Nomination or Historic Research Study be produced that identifies all eligible properties on

the Parkway for listing including the Ridgeland Information Cabin. The entire 1951 construction including the cabin and the maintenance complex should be evaluated in the study to determine if it is eligible for listing as a historic district.

Period of Significance

Since the Ridgeland Information Cabin has not yet been nominated and accepted on to the National Register of Historic Places, the following Period of Significance is tentative, providing only the basis for identifying contributing and non-contributing features, and is subject to future confirmation.

We suggest a Period of Significance from 1951-1970, beginning with the date of construction and to an end date of fifty years ago. This span of time is when the property actively contributed to recreation. No major alterations occurred during this time.

² United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, *Determination of Eligibility Notification, Natchez Trace Parkway*, by Daniel T. Vivian. July 28, 2004.

³ Letter from Jim Woodrick to Gordon Wilson, May 25, 2009. Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Historic Preservation Division Survey Files, Ridgeland Visitor Contact Center (Natchez Trace Parkway), Ridgeland, Madison County, 089-RDG-8006.

Character-Defining Features

The historic nature of significant buildings and structures is defined by their character, which is embodied in the identifying physical features. Character-defining features can include the form of a building; its materials, craftsmanship, interior layout, and features; and different components of its surroundings.⁴

The following list identifies existing character-defining features found on the exterior and interior of the Ridgeland Information Cabin.

Exterior

These original exterior elements are considered to be contributing elements to its significance

- General configuration and orientation
- Adzed, rough-hewn logs and half dovetail joints
- Mortar chinking
- Wood window sash and frames
- Wood bead board doors, door frames
- Cedar shingle gable roof with full width shed porch roofs at north and south.
- Wood clapboard gables
- Brick chimneys
- Wood porch posts
- Brick porch floor
- Brick foundation wall

Interior

These original elements are considered to be contributing elements to its significance

- Wood flooring
- Fireplace
- Interior wall and ceiling boards
- Interior window and door casings

Assessment of Integrity

Assessment of integrity is based on an evaluation of the existence and condition of the physical features that date to a property's period of significance. Individual qualities of integrity as defined in the National Register Criteria for Evaluation are location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. As noted in *National Register Bulletin: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*:

Location is the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred. . . Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property. . . Setting is the physical environment of a historic property. . . Materials are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time or configuration to form a historic property. . . Workmanship is the physical evidence of the craft of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory. . . Feeling is a property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time. . . Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property.⁵

The property must retain the essential physical features that enable it to convey its historical significance. The essential physical features are those features that define both why a property is significant (National Register criteria) and when it was significant (period of significance). The *National Register Bulletin: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* defines integrity as "the ability of a property to convey its significance."⁶

The integrity of the Ridgeland Information Cabin has been assessed as follows:

Integrity of Location. The Ridgeland Information Cabin retains integrity of location.

⁴ Lee H. Nelson, FAIA, Preservation Brief 17: Architectural Character: Identifying the Visual Aspects of Historic Buildings as an Aid to Preserving Their Character (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, Technical Preservation Services, 1988).

⁵ National Register Bulletin: How to Apply the National Register criteria for Evaluation (Washington, D.D.: Government Printing Office, 1997), 44-45.

⁶ Ibid.

The location of the building has remained unchanged since it was originally constructed.

Integrity of Design. The Ridgeland Information Cabin retains integrity of design. Little work has been done to alter the overall design of the exterior of the cabin.

Integrity of Setting. The Ridgeland Information Cabin retains integrity of setting. Situated along the Parkway amongst a group of large evergreens, the setting has not changed although the landscape has matured. The main differentiation from the original site plan is the change in walking paths around the south, west, and north sides of the building. The access road and small parking lot adjacent to the cabin are consistent with the original Parkway drawings of the site. The parking area also serves as a trail-head for the paved Ridgeland Multi-Use Path.

Integrity of Materials and Workmanship. The Ridgeland Information Cabin retains integrity of materials and workmanship. Limited work has been done to the exterior. While the interiors of the secondary spaces have been renovated to provide accessible and additional toilet rooms, the interior of the primary Exhibit Room remains largely unchanged except for exhibits, additional lighting, and new doors.

Integrity of Feeling. The Ridgeland Information Cabin retains integrity of feeling. The modernization of the toilet rooms has made the building functional for the present day but has not drastically altered the historic design intent.

Integrity of Association. The Ridgeland Information Cabin retains integrity of association as its current use as a contact station for visitors on the Parkway serving its original intent.

Architectural and Historical Significance

Architectural Significance

The building is representative of the National Park Service rustic style of architecture.

Historical Significance

The Ridgeland Information Cabin is significant in that it was instrumental in the development of visitor services for motor touring on the Parkway in Mississippi. The cabin forms part of the designed landscape that integrated a traditional, rural, agrarian, southern landscape experience, while facilitating leisurely scenic travel.⁷

Definition of Contributing vs. Non-Contributing Features

The Ridgeland Information Cabin retains many architectural features from its original construction in 1951.

Contributing – Primary:

Architectural features, spaces, and elements of the cabin which are original, character defining features of the Rustic style, or which date to and characterize the Period of Significance.

Contributing -Secondary:

Architectural features, elements, and spaces of the cabin which may date to the Natchez Trace Development Period, but are of secondary significance historically, such as utilitarian spaces, bathrooms, and mechanical spaces.

Non-Contributing:

Architectural features, spaces and elements of the cabin which post-date the period of significance.

⁷ Foundation Document, p.7

Integrity Zones

Integrity zones have been designated to identify the level of intervention recommended to properly restore the building to its period of significance. These zones integrate assessment of contributing and non-contributing features, levels of historical and architectural integrity, and condition of materials and architectural features.

Preservation of Contributing Features

Preservation focuses on the maintenance and repair of existing historic materials and the retention of a property's form as it has evolved over time. Treatment involves repair, protection and stabilization. Areas where preservation will be an appropriate treatment include existing historic features which have been unaltered since original construction and are therefore character defining features of the vernacular style or represent the period of development of the Parkway.

Features, spaces and elements of the cabin falling within the Integrity Zone – Contributing include elements which date to the original construction period of the cabin. These generally include the following exterior elements:

- Dogtrot center passage-double “pen”
- Half-dovetail adzed, square-hewn oak logs
- Mortar chinking
- 9-over-6 wood window sash and frames
- Long leaf yellow pine bead board batten doors, door frames
- Cedar shake roof – Gable roof with full-width shed-roofed front and rear porches
- Wood clapboard gables
- Flanking, brick end chimneys centered on gable walls; Flemish bond with rough flush mortar joint with rodged “grapevine” tooling.
- Wood porch posts and exposed framing and closed eave
- Brick porches: herringbone brick floor paving and steps
- Wood rainwater troughs and brackets

The interior elements and rooms that are considered Contributing – primary and help to define preservation zones are as follows:

- Exhibit Room
 - o Heart pine flooring
 - o Fireplace
 - o Interior wall and ceiling paneling and exposed beams
 - o Interior window and door casings

Alterations

The cabin has seen very few modifications from its period of significance. Most modifications have been minor within the “pens” and primarily located within utilitarian spaces.

Features, spaces and elements of the cabin falling within the Integrity Zone – Contributing-Altered include elements which have been altered since the original construction period of the cabin.

Exterior elements which have been altered or removed include the following:

- The exterior logs and exposed framing have been painted.
- Main entry doors have been replaced with new doors with wood veneer resembling board and batten doors. These doors were hung on new hinges mounted at the exterior face of doors likely so that they could swing outward for code compliance. The original doors are mounted on the interior.
- Exterior lighting fixtures.
- Wood rain trough and brackets at south elevation of dogtrot are missing.
- Flashing at chimneys-base flashing and chimney caps
- Wood ventilation louvers at the gable ends.
- Portland cement chinking at east and west elevations.
- Wood window frame elements at east elevation have been replaced.
- Concrete ground gutter at foundation perimeter.

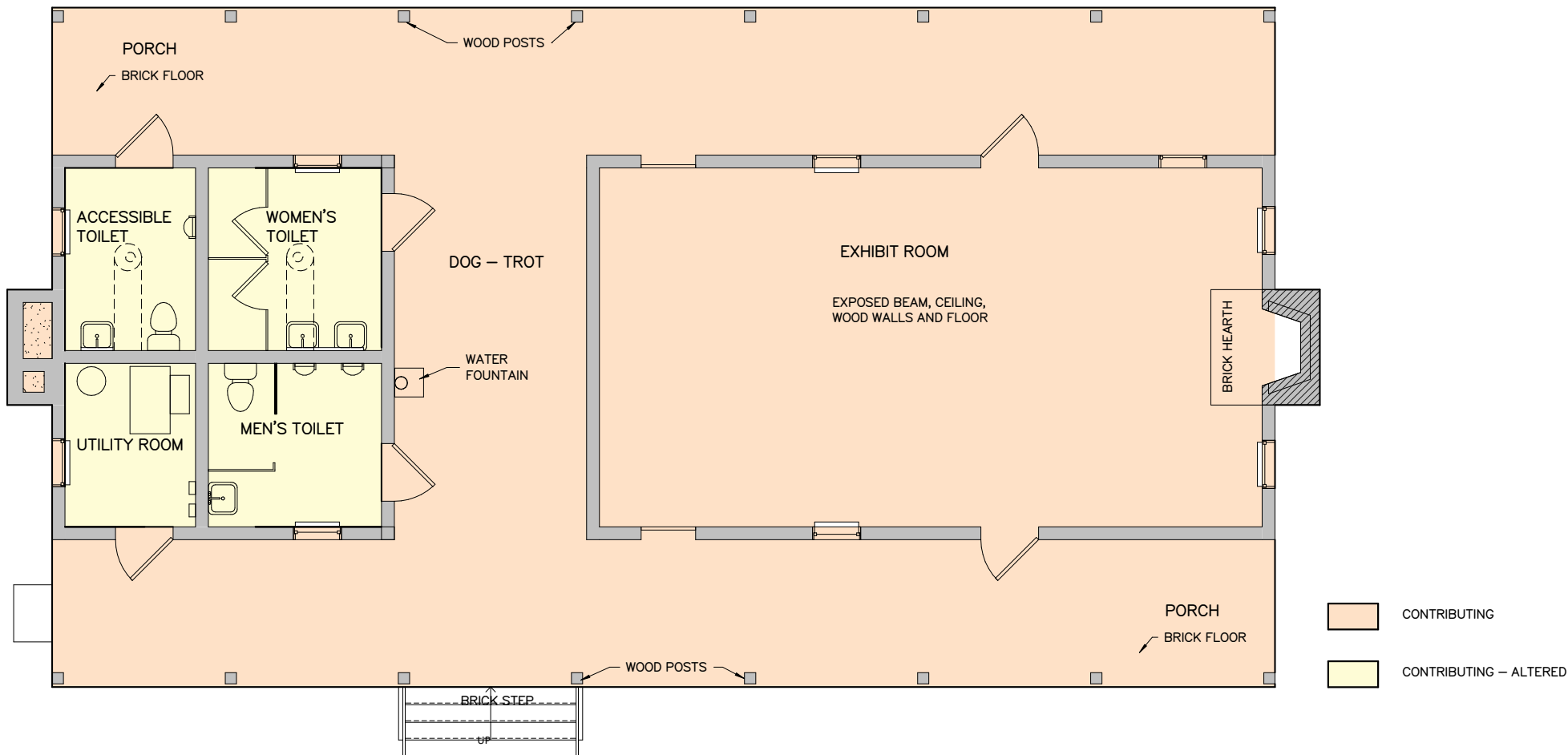
- Concrete drinking fountain mounted in dogtrot
- Step removed at south entrance to provide accessible entrance.
- Heat pump
- Wood ramp to portable toilets
- Wood handrail and posts at steps
- Brick steps at north

Interior elements which have been altered or removed include the following:

- Exhibit Room
 - o Fireplace mantel has been added.
 - o Electric wall heaters have been covered with a wood framed panel
 - o Wood window treatment valances have been added to the interior window frames
 - o Built in information desk has been constructed
- The original Storage Room was turned into the Men's Toilet Room (2009)
- The original Men's Toilet Room was turned into a Family Restroom (c2009) and janitorial storage.

Integrity Zone Diagrams:

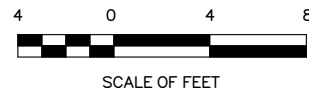
The following diagrams graphically categorize the interior and exterior into the integrity zones previously described.



1
A-1.6

INTEGRITY ZONES

SCALE (A)



DESIGNED: Designer BADD Author TECH. REVIEW: Checker DATE: 10/6/20	SUB SHEET NO. A-1.6	TITLE OF SHEET INTEGRITY ZONES NATR RIDGELAND INFORMATION CABIN NATR RIDGELAND INFORMATION CABIN HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT	DRAWING NO. _____ PMIS/PKG NO. _____ SHEET ____ OF ____
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Treatment and Use

Requirements for Treatment and Use

The Ridgeland Information Cabin is not currently listed in the National Register of Historic Places. It does not have a Period of Significance, which will be defined in a future National Register Nomination Form. However, in consultation with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, the building was determined eligible for the National Register in 2009 as a contributing resource associated with Natchez Trace Parkway's development. A period of interpretation and treatment (in lieu of a Period of Significance) specific to the Ridgeland Information Cabin is proposed as follows: 1951 – 1970. Since Recreation, a recognized NRHP area of significance, is used to justify the creation of the Parkway, the contribution of the cabin to the area of Recreation as a museum, visitor center and travelers' comfort station between 1951 and 1970 (50 years ago) is identified as "the span of time when the property actively contributed" to Recreation.

The administratively determined Management Category is "Must Be Preserved and Maintained" and the Ultimate Treatment is "Preservation", as characterized in the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties*.

Laws, Regulations, and Functional Requirements

Key laws, regulations, and functional requirements that apply to the recommended work include the following:

- Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), which mandates that federal agencies, including NPS, take into account the effects of their actions on properties listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and give the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation a reasonable opportunity to comment.

Treatment of the building and site are also to be guided by the following:

- *Secretary of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*
- Architectural Barrier Act Accessibility Standards (ABAAS)
- International Building Code (IBC)
- International Existing Building Code (IEBC)
- International Plumbing Code (IPC)
- National Electrical Code (NFPA 70)
- National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 101 : Life Safety Code (NFPA 101) Code 24
- American Concrete Institute (ACI) code ACI 318-11

As of December 2019, the State of Mississippi adopted the 2018 IBC. The City of Ridgeland Mississippi has adopted the 2015 family of International Codes.

US Code Title 40 - Public Buildings, Property, and Works. Federal properties are exempt from State and local building codes. It is NPS policy to comply with state and local codes to the extent possible, but NPS retains ultimate authority to accept or reject any recommendation of a state or local government code official. The NPS has adopted the technical requirements of the International Code Council including the IBC, referencing the latest edition published.

With historic structures, attempts to achieve rigid conformance with model building code standards that are intended for new buildings can lead to removal of historic materials. Alternative compliance procedures, such as Chapter 12 of the IEBC relating to historic buildings, should be referenced in determining code compliance. Both the State of Mississippi and the National Park Service has adopted the International Existing Building Code (IEBC).

Executive Order 13834 issued May 17, 2018 on Efficient Federal Operations on the implementation of sustainable design and construction practices, revoking an earlier Executive Order 13693.

Universal accessibility will be maintained and improved where possible according to the guidelines set by ABAAS.

Hazardous materials

A survey by an environmental engineer should be completed during the early design stage of the project to determine if hazardous materials are present and so that their abatement or mitigation may be planned in conjunction with the construction documents.

Alternatives for Treatment and Use

The National Park Service has developed definitions for the four major treatments that may be applied to historic structures: preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, and reconstruction. The four definitions are as follows:

Preservation is defined as the act or process of applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity, and materials of an historic property. Work, including preliminary measures to protect and stabilize the property, generally focus upon the ongoing maintenance and repair of historic materials and features rather than extensive replacement and new construction. The limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a preservation project. However, new exterior additions are not within the scope of this treatment. The Standards for Preservation require retention of the greatest amount of historic fabric along with the building's historic form.

Rehabilitation is defined as the act or process of making possible a compatible use for a property through repair, alterations, and additions while preserving those portions or features which convey its historical, cultural, or architectural values. The Rehabilitation Standards acknowledge the need to alter or add to a historic building to meet continuing or new uses while retaining the building's historic character.

Restoration is defined as the act or process of accurately depicting the form, features, and character of a property as it appeared at a particular period of time by means of the removal of features from other periods in its history and

reconstruction of missing features from the restoration period. The limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a restoration project. The Restoration Standards allow for the depiction of a building at a particular time in its history by preserving materials, features, finishes, and spaces from its period of significance and removing those from other periods.

Reconstruction is defined as the act or process of depicting by means of new construction, the form, features, and detailing of a non-surviving site, landscape, building, structure, or object for the purpose of replicating its appearance at a specific period of time and in its historic location. The Reconstruction Standards establish a limited framework for recreating a vanished or non-surviving building with new materials, primarily for interpretive purposes.¹

Of the four treatment approaches, *preservation*, which involves applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity, and materials of an historic property, is most appropriate for the Ridgeland Information Cabin. Although the restroom spaces in the building have been modified over the years, the exterior facade and Exhibit Room retain historic integrity. The treatment preservation would protect the historic character of the building while allowing for maintenance repairs, limited interventions to address the structural needs of the building, and upgrade of plumbing and bathroom fixtures.

Future use of the Ridgeland Information Cabin is expected to be similar to its current function as a visitor and interpretive center.

Ultimate Treatment and Use

Guidelines for Treatment

The guidelines and requirements for treatment included later in this chapter have been defined based on the preservation objectives and requirements for treatment and use outlined above for the Ridgeland Information Cabin. All

¹ Anne E. Grimmer, Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring &

Reconstructing Historic Buildings (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 2017).

Treatment and Use

treatment guidelines and recommendations were developed in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Preservation.

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Preservation are as follows:

1. A property will be used as it was historically or be given a new use that requires maximizes the retention of distinctive materials, features, spaces, and spatial relationships. Where a treatment and use have not been identified, a property will be protected and, if necessary, stabilized until additional work may be undertaken.
2. The historic character of a property will be retained and preserved. The replacement of intact or repairable of historic materials and features, spaces and spatial relationships that characterize a property will be avoided.
3. Each property will be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Work needed to stabilize, consolidate, and conserve existing historic materials and features will be physically and visually compatible, identifiable upon close inspection and properly documented for future research.
4. Changes to a property that have acquired historic significance in their own right will be retained and preserved.
5. Distinctive materials, features, finishes and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property will be preserved.
6. The existing condition of historic features will be evaluated to determine the appropriate level of intervention needed. Where the severity of deterioration requires repair or limited replacement of a distinctive feature, the new material will match the old in composition, design, color, and texture.
7. Chemical or physical treatments, if appropriate, will be undertaken using the

gentlest means possible. Treatments that cause damage to historic materials will not be used.

8. Archeological resources will be protected and preserved in place. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures will be undertaken.

Guidelines for implementing the treatment recommendations provided herein are as follows:

- Retain the character of the historic structure and environs by protecting the Ridgeland Information Cabin's significant site features and viewsheds.
- Ensure that proposed new elements or construction are compatible with the historic character of the structure or site.
- Document through detailed as-built drawings, photographs, and written narrative all changes and treatments to the building and its immediate site. Maintain records of treatments and preserve documentation according to professional archive standards. Maintain a copy of records in NPS archives.
- Retain features and materials at both the exterior and interior of the building that survive from the period of significance to the greatest extent possible.
- Incorporate sustainable design principles in all future projects that respect the preservation principles listed above.
- Identify natural hazards to the structure and site and address with resilience measures in the preservation work so that impacts are minimized.
- Minimize the negative impact on the building's character when adding code required accessibility and life-safety improvements.
- Undertake all work on the structure and site in compliance with the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Preservation*.

Recommendations for Treatment

Based on the existing conditions observed from our site visit in 2019 and test pits undertaken in 2020, the following specific recommendations for

future treatment of the Ridgeland Information Cabin have been developed. These specific recommendations respond to the overarching treatment approach *preservation*, which involves applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity, and materials of an historic property

Responses to Code Provisions and Safety Issues

The Ridgeland Information Cabin is currently without plumbing due to the foundation issues which broke the plumbing piping. Resolving the foundation issues are the main priority so that the restrooms can eventually be restored to working order. Portable toilet rooms are currently being provided.

Responses to Climate Change and Increased Climate Variability

Climate change and natural hazards will impact the cabin in various ways including the following potential effects:

- increased rainfall
- increased wind speeds
- increased temperatures
- increased climate variability both locally and on a broad scale
- overall site stability will be effected by soil erosion and impacts on vegetative cover
- visitation patterns

The following actions are possible in response to the effects of climate change:

Adaptation is the process of adjustment to actual natural hazards and the environment and its effects; human intervention may facilitate adjustment to expected climate.

The following adjustments to the environment could be taken to adapt to natural hazards:

Changing to water permeable pavement to improve site drainage. Mitigation is the lessening of the potential adverse impacts of natural hazards through actions that reduce hazard, exposure, and vulnerability.

The following actions at the Ridgeland Information Cabin can mitigate adverse effects on park visitation:

- HVAC improvements to increase cooling capacity.
- Cultural Landscape Report to examine whether or not large pine trees are appropriate for the site as they have potential to fall on cabin in an extreme wind event. (See Appendix L -Planting Plan)

Resilience is the ability of a system and its component parts to anticipate, absorb, accommodate, or recover from the effects of a hazardous event in a timely and efficient manner, including through ensuring the preservation, restoration, or improvement of its essential basic features, structures and functions.

The following actions at the Ridgeland Information Cabin can improve the resilience of the structure to climate change.

- Improve integrity of roof system
- Provide functional roof drainage and storm water management at foundation.
- Improve management for soil stability by reducing impacts on vegetative cover of soil including social trails, maintenance vehicle use on lawns, and excavation and cover procedures related to trenching for utilities such as plumbing replacement.

Site and General Recommendations

1. Avoid constructing new features that interfere with views of the Ridgeland Information Cabin.
2. Protect the setting of the Ridgeland Information Cabin from changes that will affect its historic integrity.
3. Retain and maintain the character-defining qualities and characteristics of the Ridgeland Information Cabin, while applying contemporary effective preservation methods to stabilize and preserve historic features and materials in good condition.
4. Consider altering non-original features and modifications to be more sympathetic with the original appearance and

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materials. Examples of this would include such features as the modern replacement doors that simulate board and batten doors. A reproduction board and batten door with solid wood members would be more in keeping with the character of the cabin than the veneer applied over a solid core door that exists today. The original drawings provide details on the original construction of the doors. Another example would be replacement of exterior light fixtures with fixtures that resemble the appearance of the original fixtures seen in historic photographs. See examples and discussion in following text.

5. Avoid adding new features or altering existing non-historic features that would impact the historic character of the Ridgeland Information Cabin.
6. Consider sustainability in the choice of materials and energy use.
7. Document all work performed on the Ridgeland Information Cabin with notes, photographs, and measured drawings and/or sketches, or with as-built annotations to construction documents at project completion. The development of comprehensive organized documentation of all work performed on the building is essential to the preservation and maintenance of the historic resource. Records of future research, conditions assessments, investigations, and treatment should be permanently archived in NPS archives at the Natchez Trace Parkway Visitor Center and Headquarters in Tupelo, Mississippi.

Structural

Concrete Foundation System. The deep foundation and slab of the cabin have failed. This is likely due to settlement of the soil beneath the cabin. Piles have disengaged from the structure and voids and root systems have developed beneath the slab.

SGH recommends underpinning the structure with helical piles to stop additional movement of the slab. This will require 4-foot x 4-foot pits to be dug at each of the pile locations (See Drawing – Concept Repair Floor Plan). Three of these

locations are only accessible from the interior of the Exhibit Room. One location is in the women's toilet room that was previously disturbed when in the test pits were conducted in June 2020. The existing 5-inch concrete slab will be cut so that the helical piles can be drilled into the soil. The depth of the pile will be determined in the field but based on documentation, the pile depth is estimated to be 30-feet. The drilling of the piles is not expected to cause any vibration or damage to the surrounding structure or wall construction or finishes.

Concrete Slab. The architectural repairs related to the foundation repair will involve concrete slab repairs and reinstallation of flooring and brick pavers. Depending on the options chosen for the leveling of the slab, the original wood floor should be reinstalled.

Options exist for the treatment of the out of level concrete slab. The options include:

- 1) Determine with Geotechnical Engineer a suggested method for leveling the concrete slab. Leveling the slab could be considered controversial as it will affect the architectural finishes and wall surfaces of the cabin, causing gaps and separation at joints where none currently exist.
- 2) Leave the out-of-level floor slab in place and apply a leveling topping slab to the concrete before the reinstallation of floor finishes and pavers to address some of slope differential currently seen in the Exhibit Room floor. This would address some but not all of the slope differential and would need to be minimized so as not to effect conditions at the wall base. It could interfere with interior finishes requiring the removal and reinstallation of Exhibit Room wainscoting.
- 3) Another more intensive option would involve shoring of the log walls and chimneys, while the existing slab is demolished and replaced with a new level slab on the stabilized grade beams. It is anticipated that this would also have some impact on interior finishes such as wainscoting.

In addition to the work to level the floor slab, the voids beneath the slab should be filled with well-draining fill in areas that are accessible from either

the 4'x4' pit locations, or under the full slab in a replacement scenario.

The use of a topping slab would need to be considered in relation to the interior wood baseboard and wainscoting.

Soil Grading. The soil surrounding the structure has scoured away or is encroaching on the building and brick pavement. A nearby fire hydrant has been covered by encroaching soil. Regrade the site so that brick is above finished grade, and fire hydrant is accessible and in compliance with NFPA 24.

The existing drainage structures on either side of the cabin are composed of discrete concrete splash blocks that have broken down over time and are no longer serviceable. Water pools up against the structure and there is not a positive path that prevents soil scouring and deposition. Regrading the slope away from the cabin in all directions is recommended to alleviate drainage and soil issues. The concrete splash blocks are not original and may be eliminated. The use of a french drain can be evaluated in future grading and drainage plans.



Figure 98. Existing conditions with soil grading at the foundation.

Brick Path Changes in grading and the possible addition of a topping slab at the cabin may require that the existing accessible brick path to the entrance be reset.

Vegetation and Root Management. Engage an arborist to address the pervasive roots beneath the building. Assessment of the landscape and the

effect of the trees on the cabin should be considered.

Large trees in close proximity to the cabin may be considered a falling hazard in the context of worsening wind and rainstorm intensity associated with climate change and climate variability.

Exterior

Wood Shake Roof. A full replacement of the wood shake roof should be anticipated within the next five years. A full replacement would allow for a new underlayment to be installed as well as Cedar Breather which would extend the life of the shakes.

The roof cladding appears to be serviceable in the short term. There is localized damage at the chimneys and eaves, biological growth on the surface of the shakes and at the ends of the lumber sheathing, deficient flashing at chimneys, out-of-level collar ties, and deteriorated and rotted wood roof troughs. The roof framing and sheathing appear to be serviceable.

The shake roof could be repaired in areas of damage in the interim. Decayed shakes should be removed from the eaves of the roof. Non-decayed shakes should be salvaged. New shakes to match the existing should be installed where necessary. The flashing, sealant and wood shakes at the chimneys should be replaced. Other areas in the field of the roof should be inspected for decayed or loose shakes and replaced as required.

The wood trough gutters should be replaced where missing or deteriorated and cleaned out on a routine basis.

A well detailed and intact roof is the most important feature in combatting the increase in natural hazards and precipitation and protecting the interior from future damage.

Attic ventilation. The eave is naturally vented however, gaps allow insects to enter the attic. Close off gap with insect screening.

Clean and replace insect screening at louvers in gable ends in attic. Seal open joints around frames.

Exterior wall assembly. The settlement of the slab has skewed the walls sideways and the

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chinking is pulling away from the timbers as the wood shrinks over time.

Remove and replace the chinking with a mix that replicates the original. The chinking on the gable ends has been replaced previously with a cementitious mortar that does not match the original. Conduct a mortar analysis of the original chinking to determine an appropriate mix. A mix which incorporates more lime may also reduce the amount of shrinkage.

An option to this would be to install an engineered sealant behind the chinking for better weather resistance and cover the joint with chinking for aesthetics.

Paint finish at logs. Conduct paint analysis to identify earlier finish campaigns on the logs in order to determine if the logs were originally painted or stained.

Remove paint if natural or stained finish on logs is determined to be original. Repaint in earliest finish if paint is determined to be an original finish.

Wood clapboard. Conduct paint analysis to determine the original and subsequent layer history for all painted clapboard, wood trim, and porch columns prior to repainting.

Wood Columns Supporting Overhanging Roof. Many of the columns that support the overhanging roof exhibit decay at the base. Some columns are deeply checked, twisted, or out of plane, and some are exhibiting biological growth. The preservation of historic fabric must be balanced with the need for structural stability. Columns that are not checked, rotted, twisted, or out of plumb could be salvaged.

Replace the existing deteriorated timber columns with new timber columns using wood species that are resistant to decay such as eastern red cedar, white oak, or redwood or salvaged period timber. The replacement timbers should be finished similar to the extant materials and finishes. A partial replacement or repair is not recommended as this will weather differently over time and be readily apparent. The use of pressure treated wood can be considered as long as there are adequate provisions made for it to accept a finish and that the variation between existing and new are not noticeable.

Temporarily shore existing roof framing as required during installation of the new columns. The base of the columns should also be slightly elevated with a galvanized steel post base or composite post base to prevent further decay. A custom post base may be required for a concealed installation.

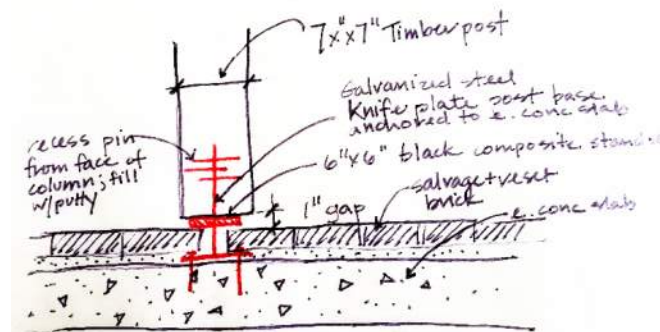


Figure 99. Custom concealed post base sketch detail to illustrate concept for raising the post base above the existing brick pavers while minimizing visual change. Actual design to be determined as part of future design phase. (Not to scale)

Windows. The original windows remain. Repair areas of loose putty and repaint exterior face of windows based on paint finish analysis. The interior face of windows has a transparent finish. The interior may require refinishing in areas where moisture has deteriorated the finish.

Doors. Several of the original doors have been replaced with new doors to simulate the appearance of the board and batten doors. Consider replacing simulated doors with new wood board and batten constructed doors to match the original.



Figure 100. Consider replacement of veneered hollow core doors with solid wood batten doors with iron strap hinges and pulls.

Door hardware. The original doors had wrought iron strap hinges and box locks with a knob according to the original drawings. While it is not possible to change the operating hardware due to the ABAAS code requirements, reproduction hinges and iron pulls could be employed in place of the modern bronze pulls and kickplates. Modern deadbolt locks will be required for security. A consistent approach to metal finishes should be applied to all hardware.

Masonry. Most horizontal and pitched brick surfaces, as well as vertical brick surfaces near or at grade, are experiencing vegetative and biological growth, prolonged exposure to moisture, and/or deterioration due to weathering, moisture, and growth.

The helical piles will require removal and salvage of the existing brick pavers at the exterior and Removal and reinstallation of the brick pavers at the porches and dogtrot will be required as part of the foundation repair. Mortar joints should be repointed, especially where the mortar is exposed to water runoff. Spalled or cracked brick should be replaced. Regrading of the soils should also be completed so that the soils are below the level of the brick as previously mentioned.

Glass. The glass panes in windows include clear glass in the Exhibit Room and obscure glass in the

restrooms of various periods. The original glass should be preserved. If replacement glazing is required, the glazing should match the original whether clear or obscure.



Figure 101. Mismatched obscure glazing from Accessible Family Restroom. The glazing should be replaced to maintain a consistent appearance of the original glazing.

Exterior Lighting. The exterior wall mounted light fixtures have been replaced with modern fixtures (Figure 102) that are not in keeping with the original wall sconce seen in the photograph from the dedication in 1951 (Figure 103). These wall mounted lanterns had arched tops likely constructed of copper with an interior reflector and hurricane glass simulating a kerosene lantern (Figure 104). Some modification to the original would be appropriate as shown in the following examples (Figure 105). The fixtures would require mounting heights that comply with ADA -ABAAS or be designed so as not to project from the wall more than 4”.



Figure 102 The existing exterior light fixtures should be replaced with reproduction fixtures which better enforce the historic character of the cabin.



Figure 103 Detail view of original exterior light from historic image from dedication. Source: Interpretive Photographic Collection, Number 9266, Natchez Trace Parkway Archives, Tupelo, MS 1951.



Figure 104 A custom light fixture based on this detail from an original 18th century kerosene lantern could be designed to match the original with a copper hood.



Figure 105 This commercially available fixture replicates some of the features of the original fixtures. A fixture without the handle and the wire cage would be appropriate for the cabin.

Interior treatment

Flooring. The original wood flooring in the Exhibit Room should be carefully pulled up and salvaged for reinstallation so that the structural work can occur at the pile locations. The entire floor should be removed. This will also provide an opportunity to inspect the top of the slab.

If the slab is leveled as part of options discussed, the existing wood floorboards may require repair treatment in order to return the boards to level. The existing boards should be reused if possible. If this is not possible due to the warpage in the boards, the flooring should be replaced in kind with new or salvaged heart pine to match the existing.

If the slab level remains as is there may be a greater chance of salvaging the existing floor.

The wood will likely require sanding and refinishing at the completion of the reinstallation.

Wall paneling. The wall paneling is in good condition and will require little in the way of treatment if the floor slab remains at the existing out-of-level condition. Releveling or replacement of the slab may cause additional cracks or joints to open up which may require additional treatment to wall paneling and trim.

The wood covers over the original convection heaters could be considered for removal along with the defunct heaters. The walls could be repaired with solid wood vertical panels to match the existing walls.

Ceiling. The wood ceiling is in good condition and is not likely to be impacted by the structural improvements.

Interior Lighting. The Exhibit Room retains three original combination air diffuser lighting fixtures that were detailed in the original plans. These fixtures are contributing and should remain, although they are modern in design. Improvements to exhibit lighting should be considered to minimize the appearance of the large track head light fixtures which are not original.



Figure 106. Detail of existing lighting in Exhibition Room.

Fireplaces. The fireplace is in good condition. The brick hearth may need to be removed and reset in order to access the pile located below the hearth. Care should be taken to maintain or restore a flush brick hearth in either foundation repair scenario.

Although the mantel does not appear in the earliest photograph of the room, it is in keeping with the room and should be preserved.

Window treatments. The original photographs of the interior do not show window treatments at the windows. Vinyl roller shades could be considered appropriate for the mid-20th century. The use of the modern wood valance to conceal the roller shade should be eliminated as this is a more recent installation and a visual distraction which does not match the existing wood tone and does not actually conceal the roller.

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Figure 107. Valance for window treatment should be eliminated.

Cabinetry. There is no fixed cabinetry other than an information desk. The large reception desk is located in the western end of the Exhibit Room. The desk will need to be removed to facilitate the flooring and foundation work. It likely dates to the period following the occupation by the Mississippi Craft Center and is not considered a character-defining feature and could be considered for replacement.



Figure 108. View of existing information desk.

Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing Systems

Review of the existing mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems were outside the scope of this HSR.

The impact of the proposed structural interventions on the existing building systems will require further consideration by a future MEP engineering team.

The plumbing will require replacement at the toilet rooms. We recommend that the piping be installed in such a way so that it is not subject to movement of slab or in a crawlspace that is exposed to freezing temperatures or inaccessible for maintenance.

The existing drinking fountain is modern and is not considered a contributing feature. It can be replaced if required.

Visitor Use

Accessibility.

Handrails have been added to the steps at the north side of the cabin and may be retained.

Toilet rooms. The toilet rooms have been renovated and retain little original fabric. After the foundation and slab repairs and plumbing replacement is completed, the restroom fixtures, toilet partitions, and finishes should be replaced.

Exhibit Panels. The interpretive exhibit panels showing the map of the Parkway are mounted on the walls at the east end of the Exhibit Room. These panels require no change but are non-contributing. Additional exhibit cases located at the center of the room may be removed or replaced depending on the interpretation needs and are not contributing features to the space.

Park Administrative Use

A bookcase for the sale of books and merchandise is also located in the west half of the room. It is not fixed and is a non-contributing feature.

Storage and mechanical spaces are to remain as is unless impacted by the releveling or replacement of the slab.

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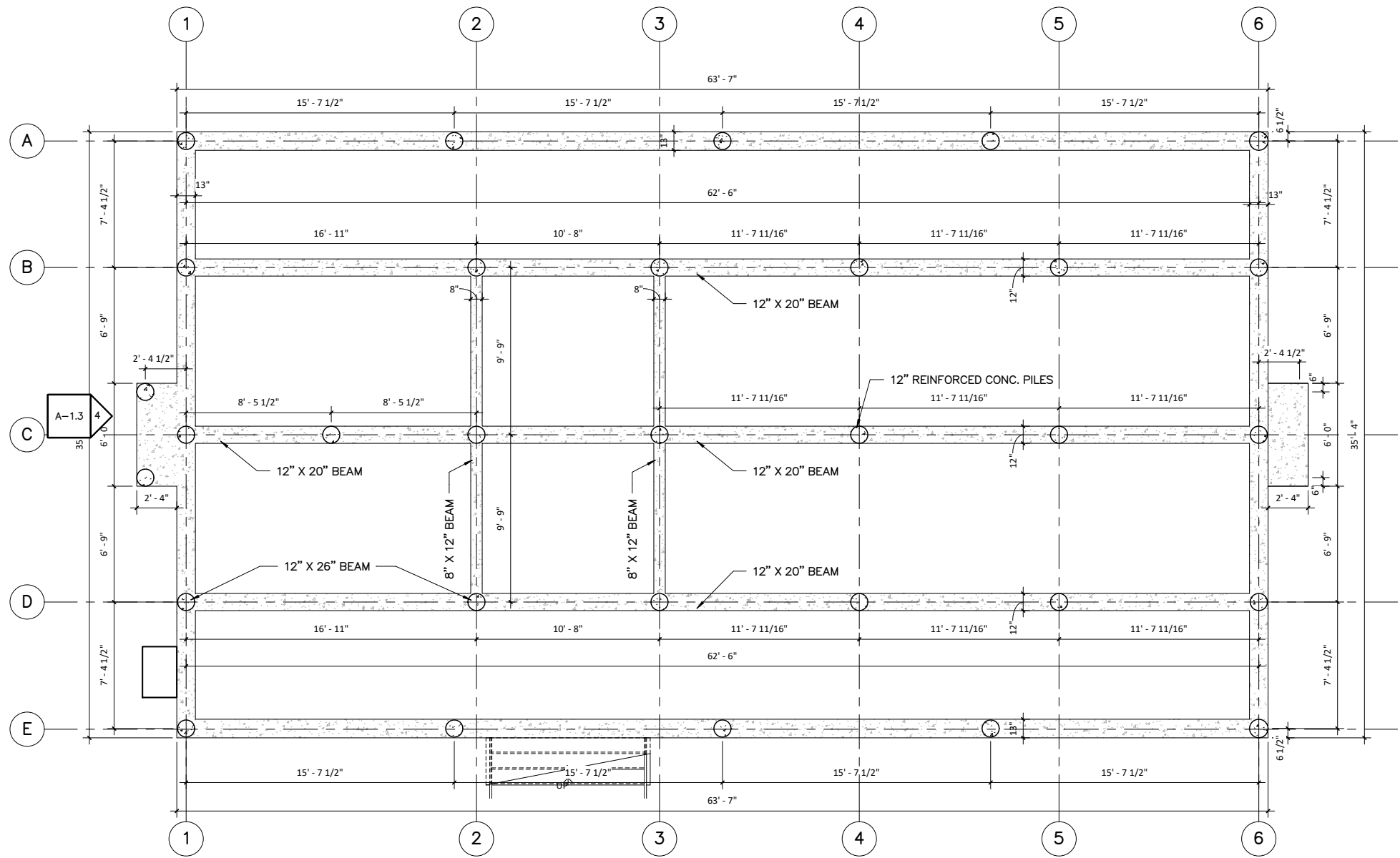
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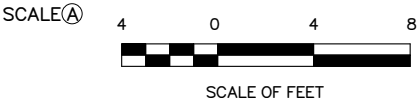
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Drawings

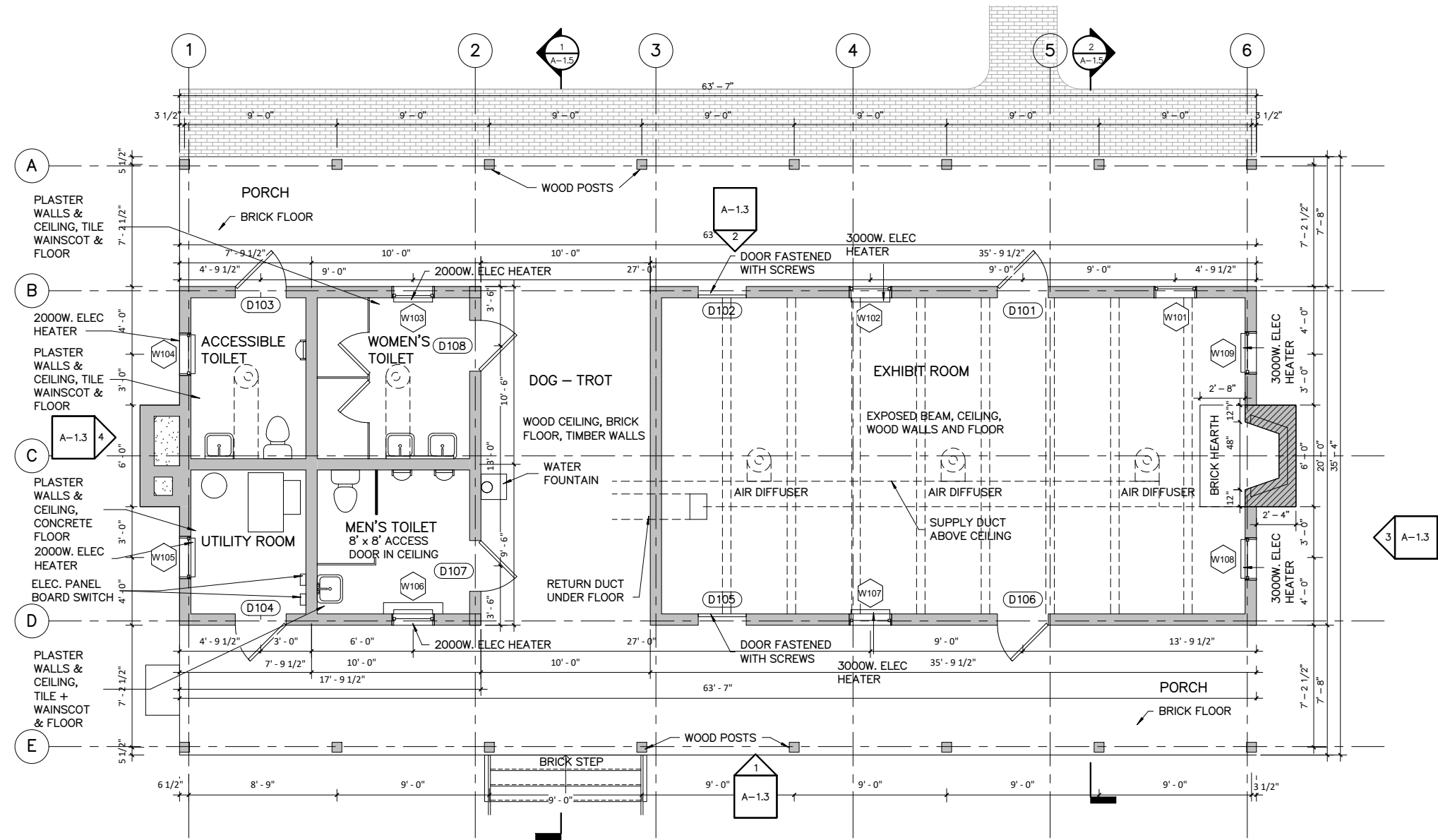
Mills + Schnoering Architects, LLC 2019



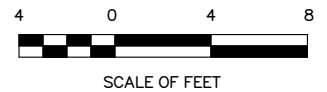
1 FOUNDATION PLAN 1
A-1.1 SCALE (A)



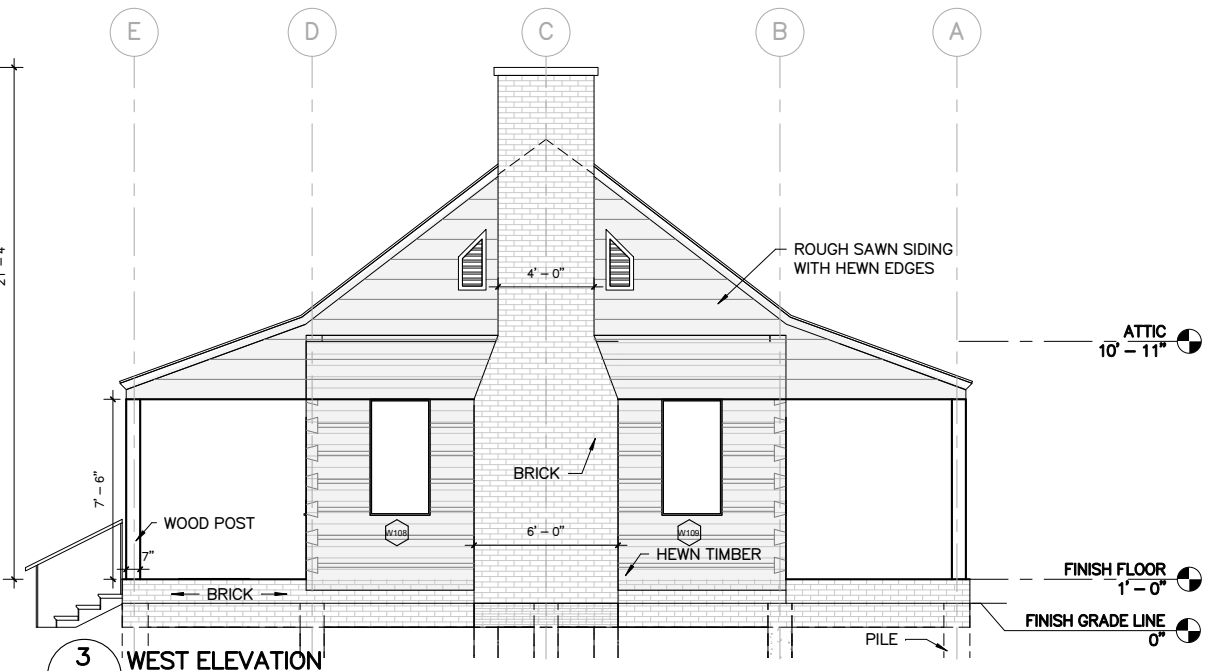
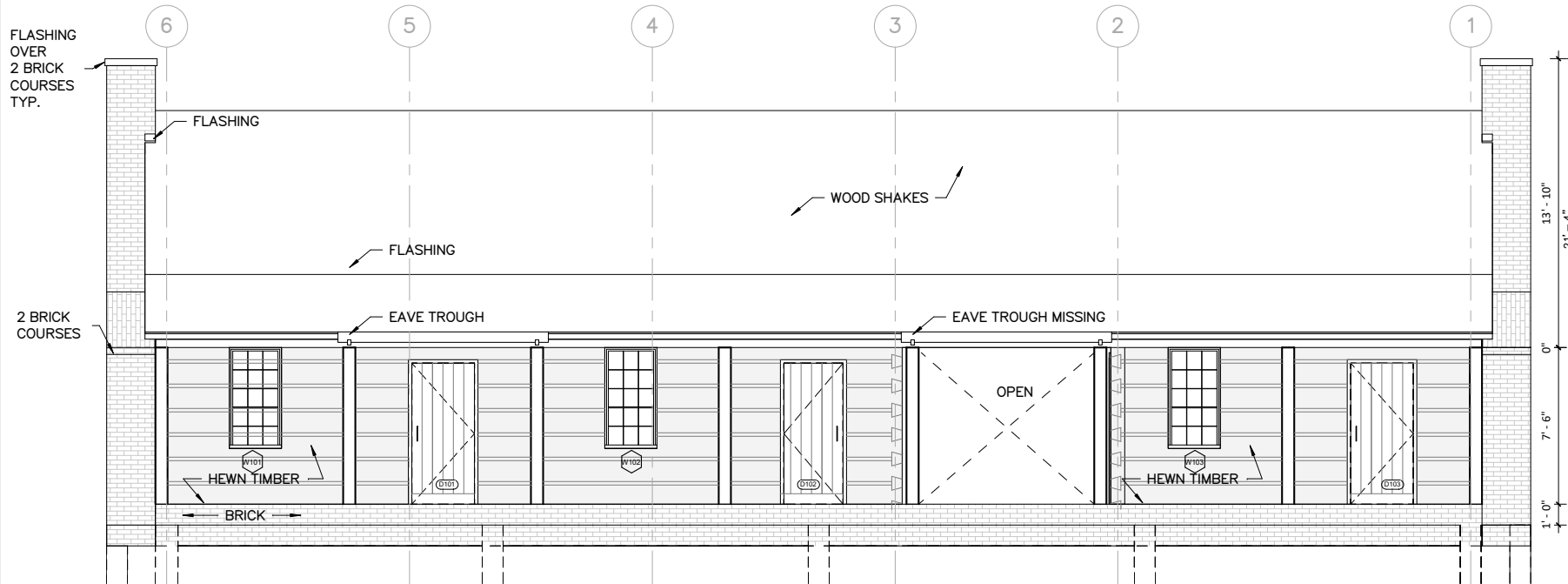
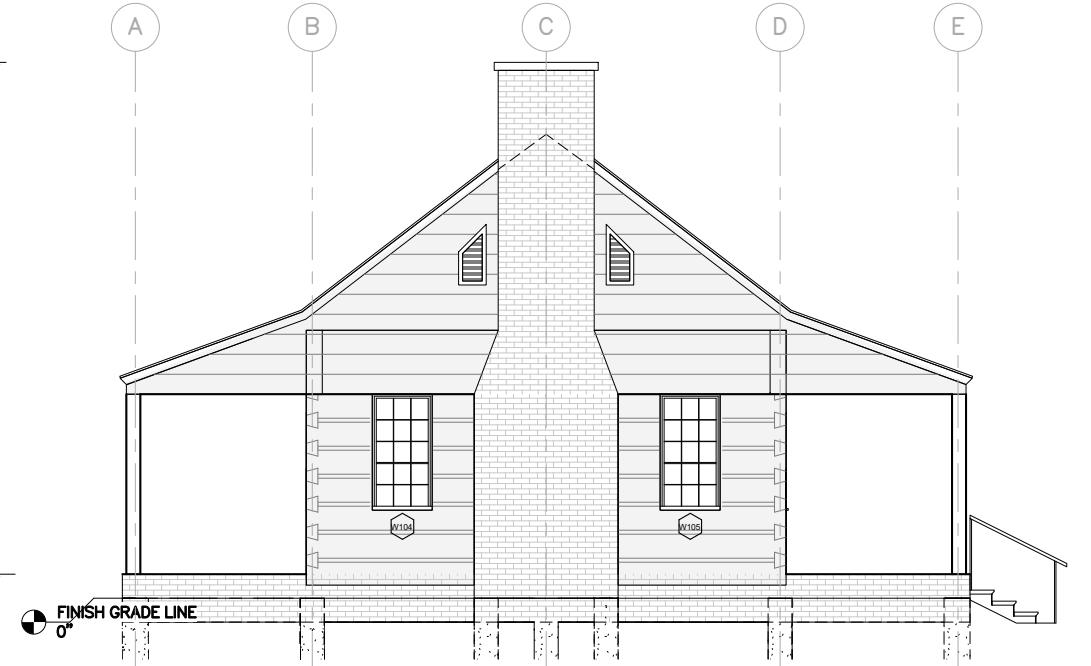
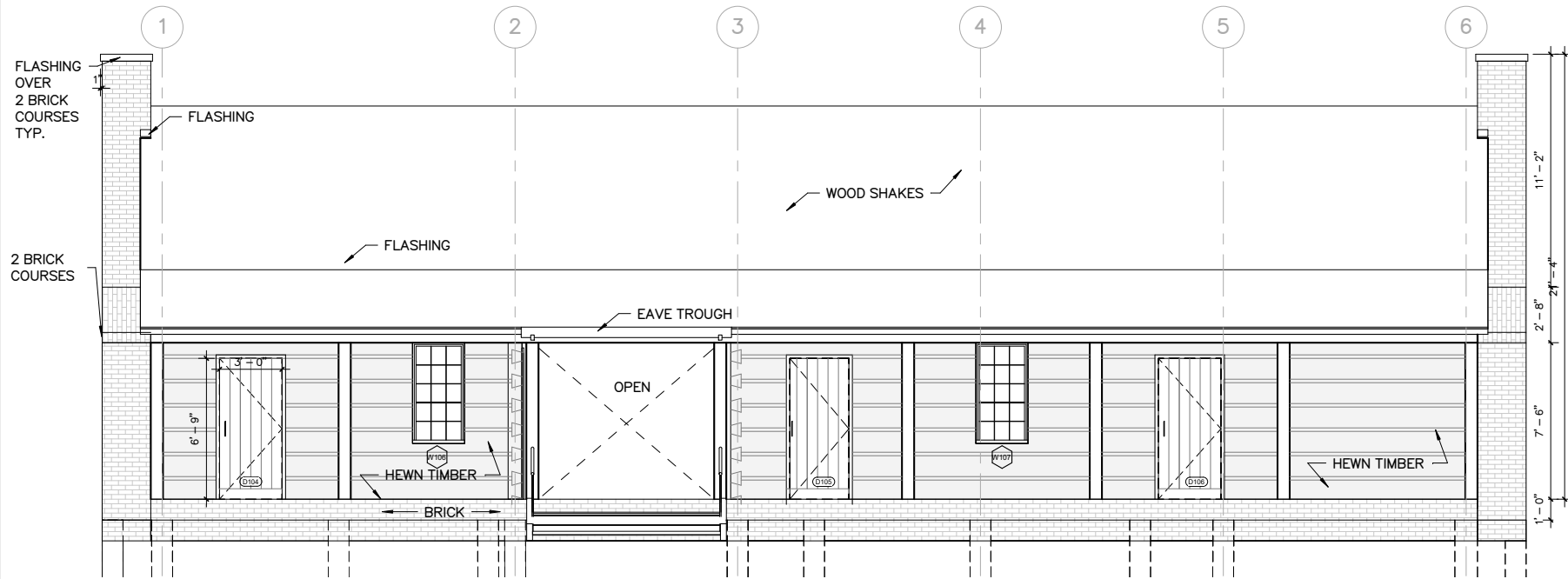
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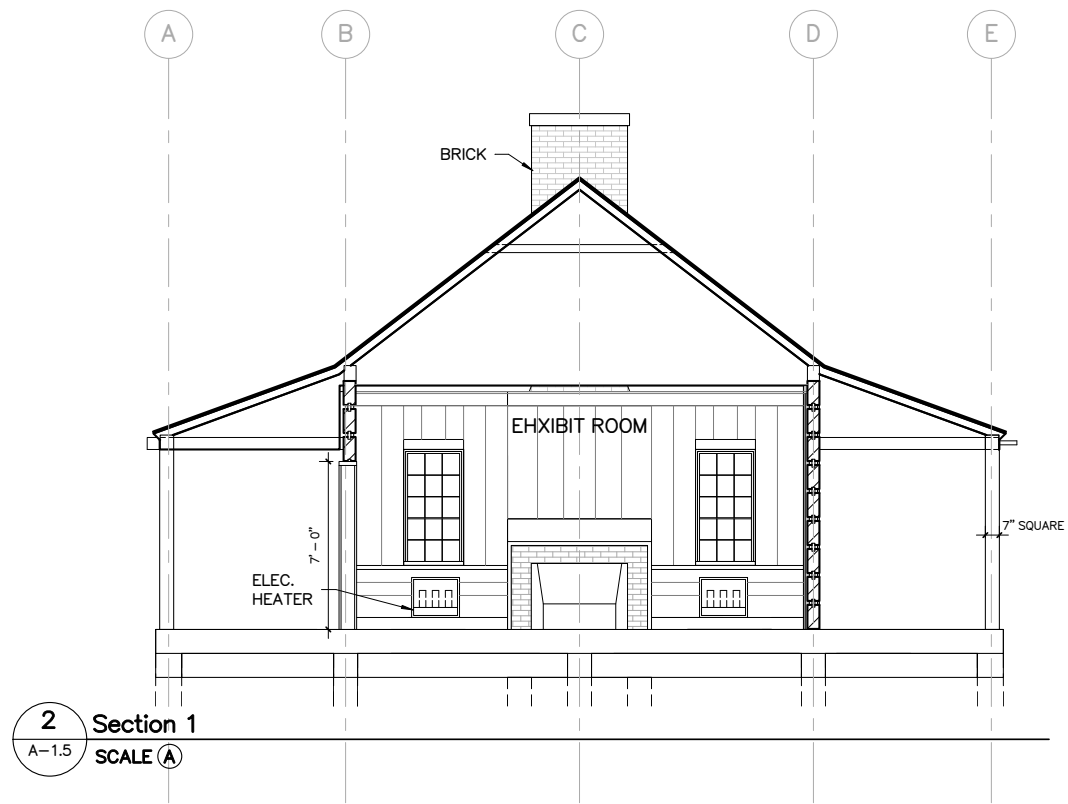
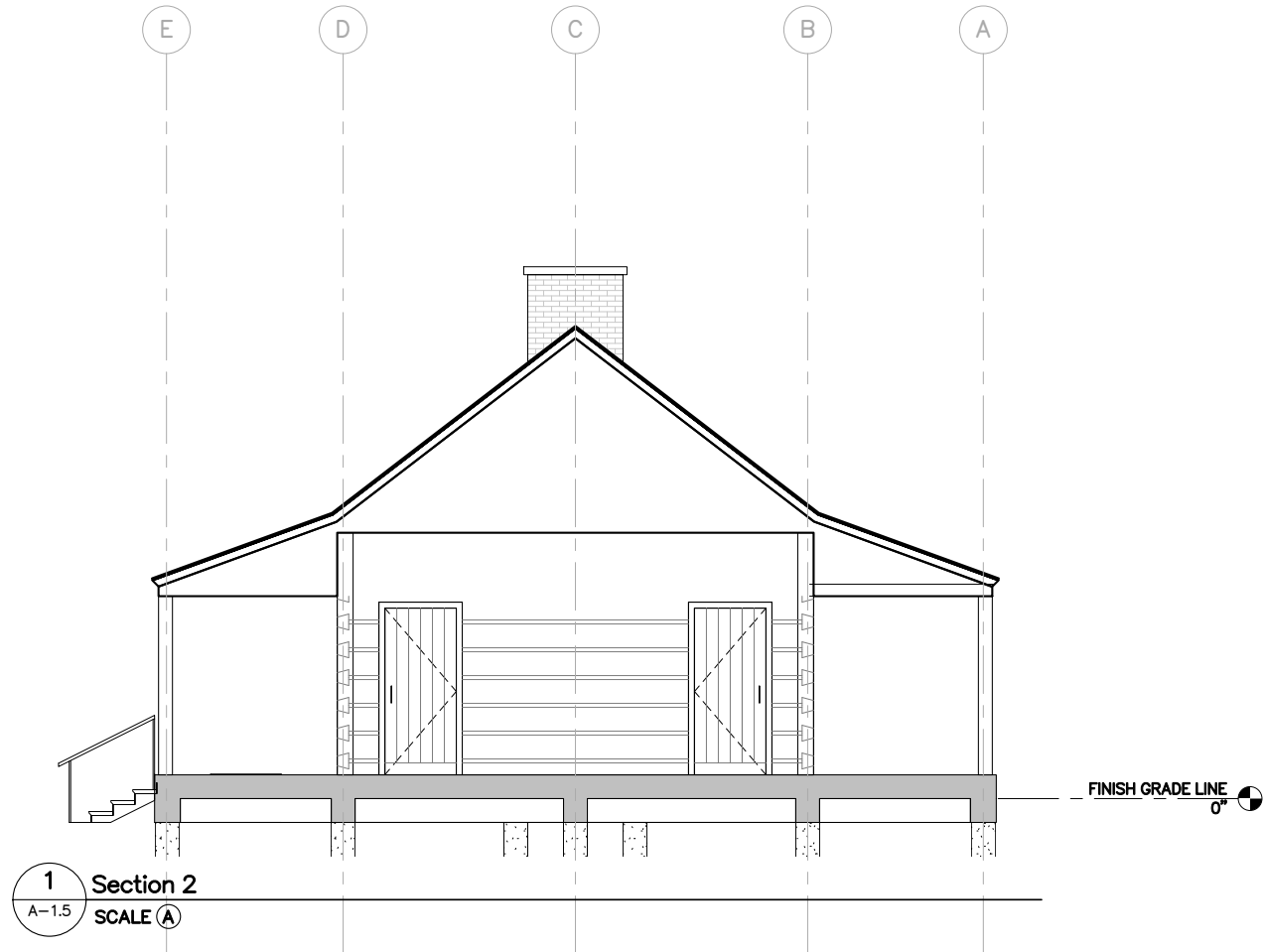
1 FLOOR PLAN
A-1.2 SCALE (A)



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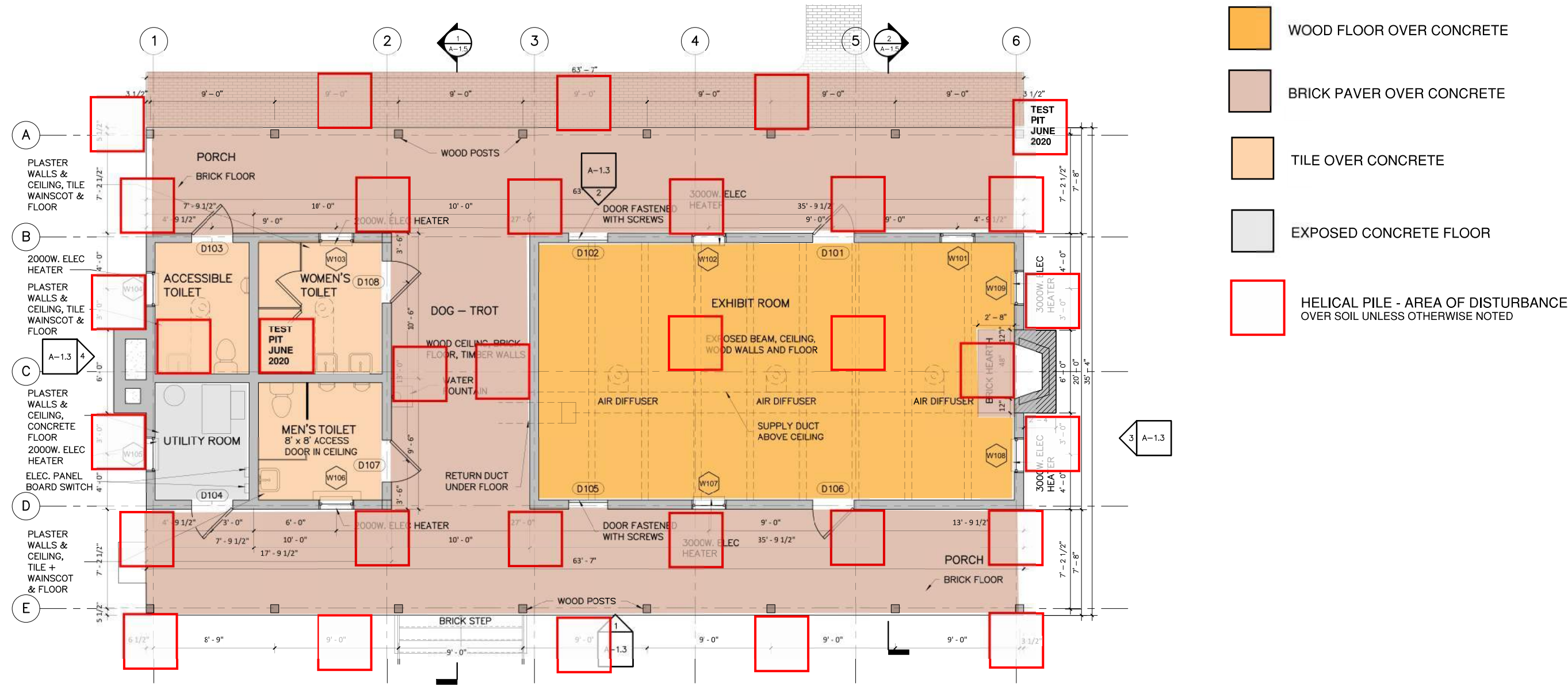


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DATE: 02/26/20		NATR RIDGELAND INFORMATION CABIN HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT	

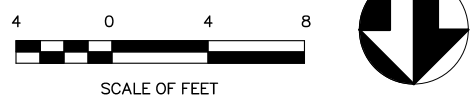


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CONCEPT REPAIR FLOOR PLAN WITH OVERLAY OF HELICAL PILE FLOOR AND SLAB DISTURBANCE
DECEMBER 2020



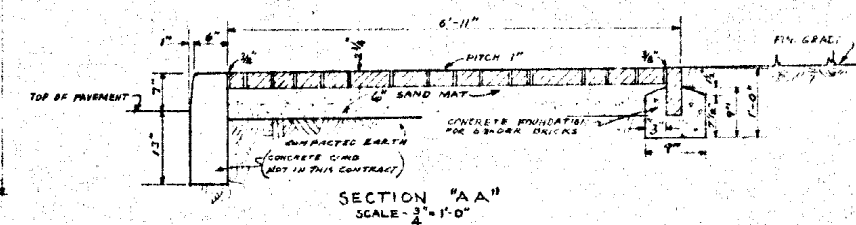
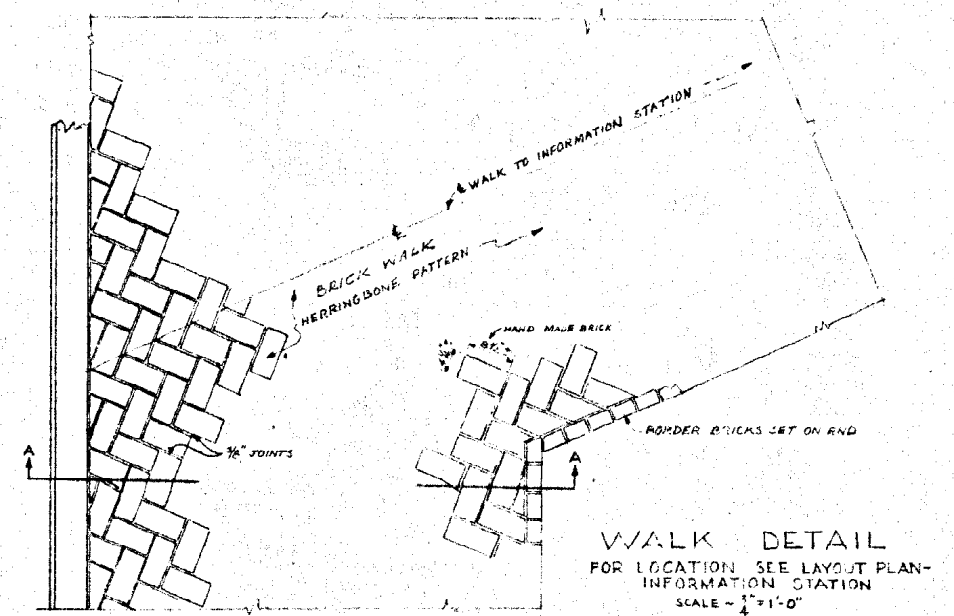
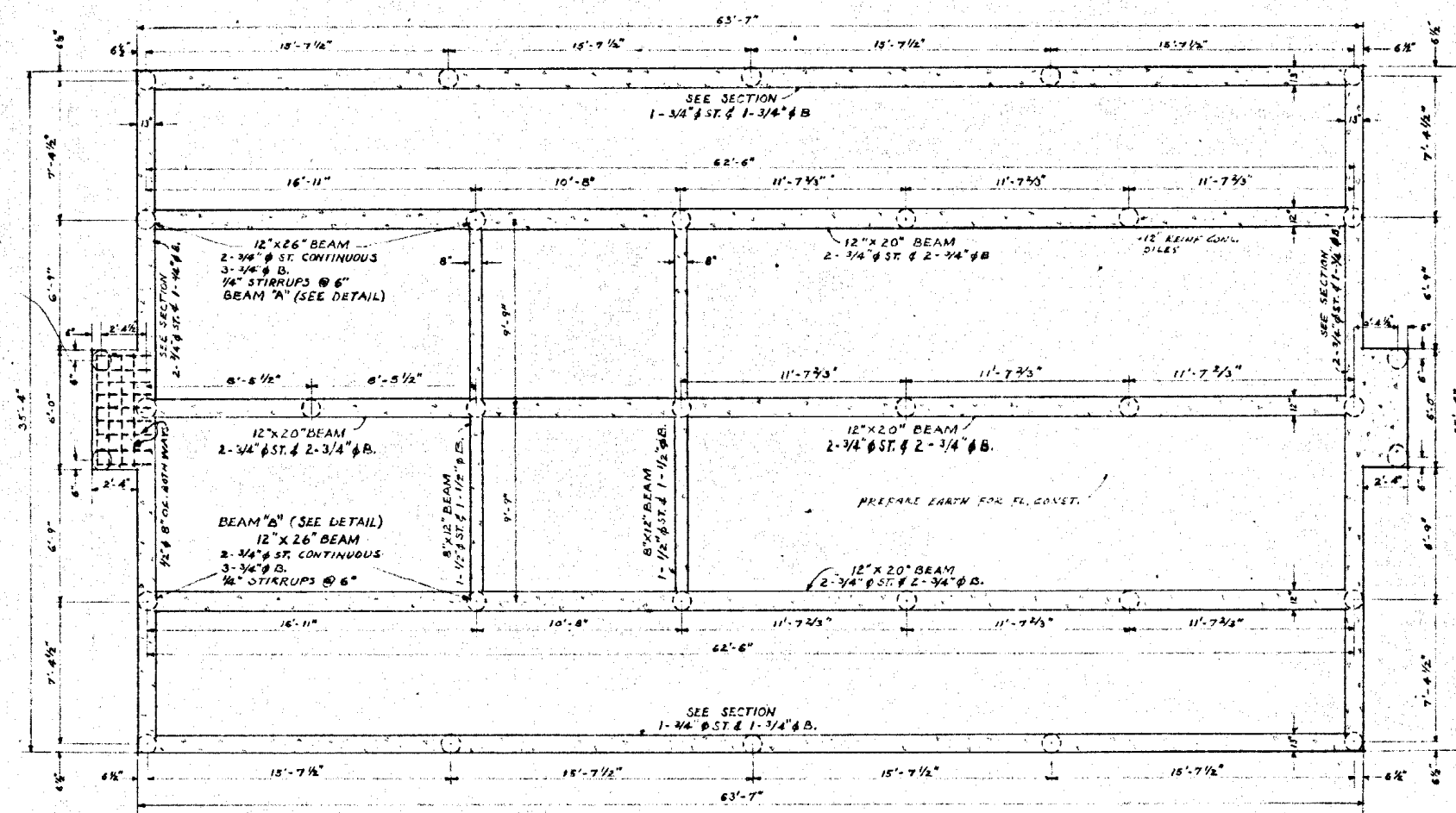
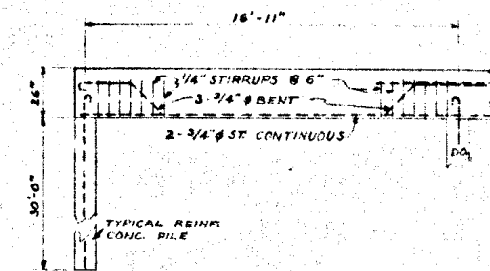
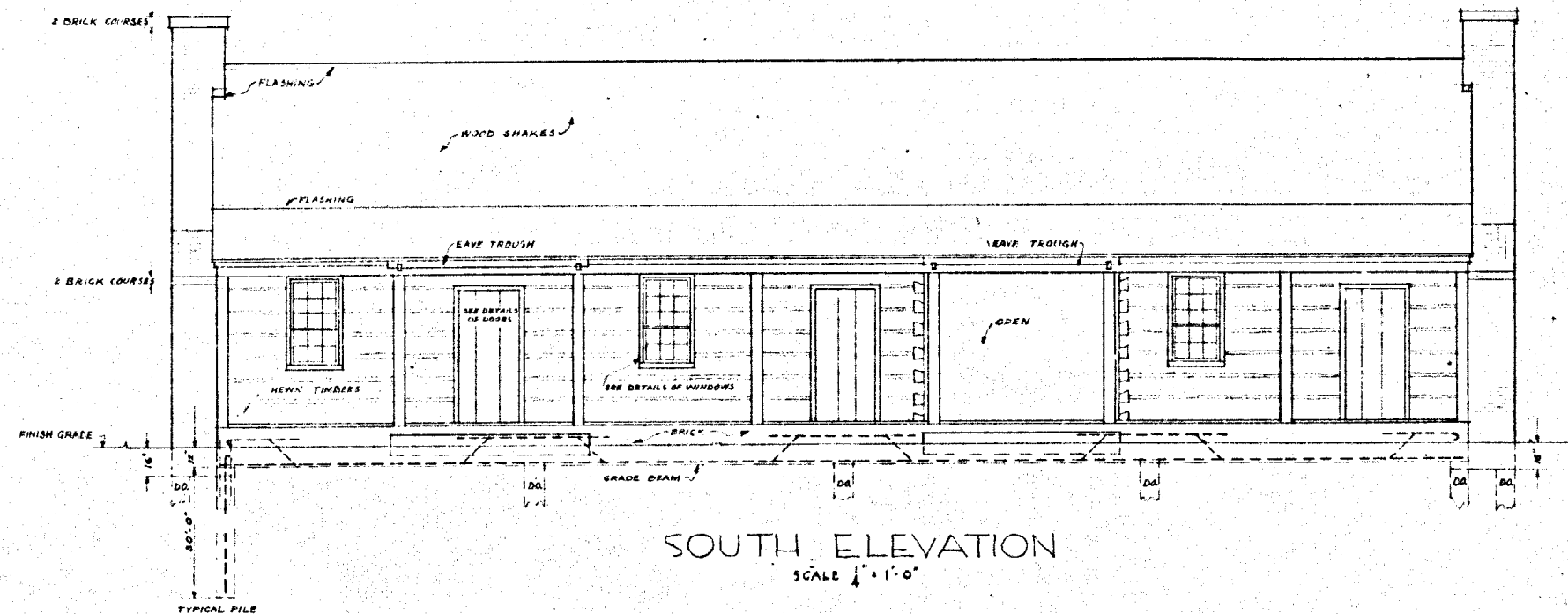
1 FLOOR PLAN
A-1.2 SCALE (A)



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DATE: 02/26/20			SHEET 2 OF 5

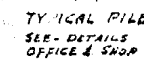
Appendix A

Original Architectural Drawings, 1940

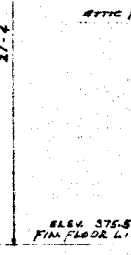


HALF-SIZE REPRODUCTION

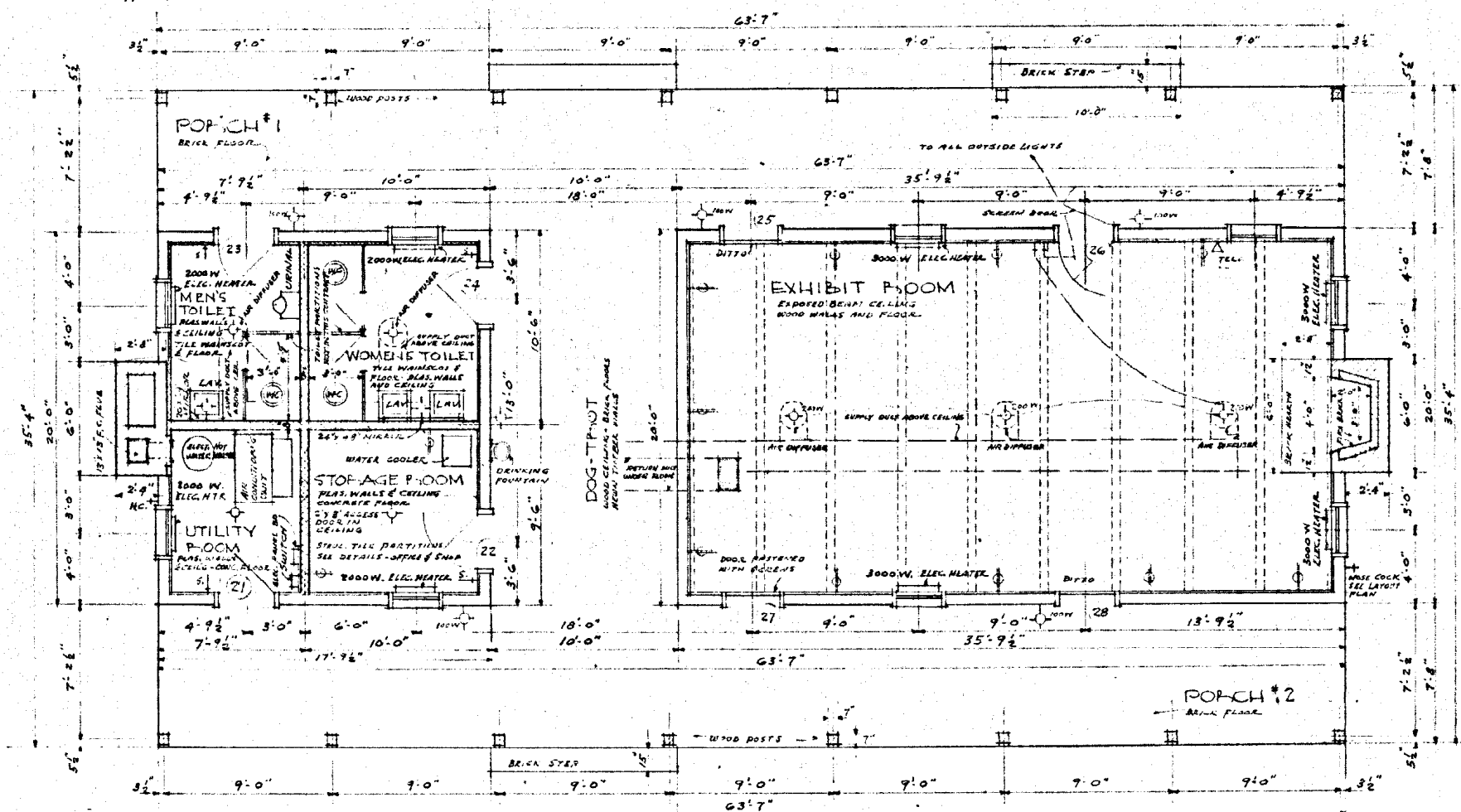
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE ARCHITECTURAL DIVISION TUPPELO, MISS.		REGION 
INFORMATION STATION RIDGELAND DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS SEC. 3-D NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY		R.C.P. No B-40 DATE: MAY 12, 1940
		DRAWING NO. <u>PKY</u> NT 2487-C
		SHEET 1 OF 3



SCALE $\frac{1}{4}" = 1'-0"$

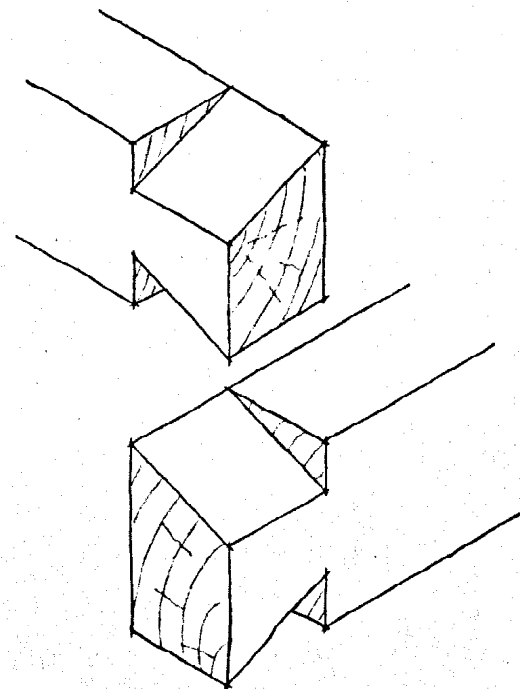


SCALE $\frac{1}{4}'' = 1'-0$

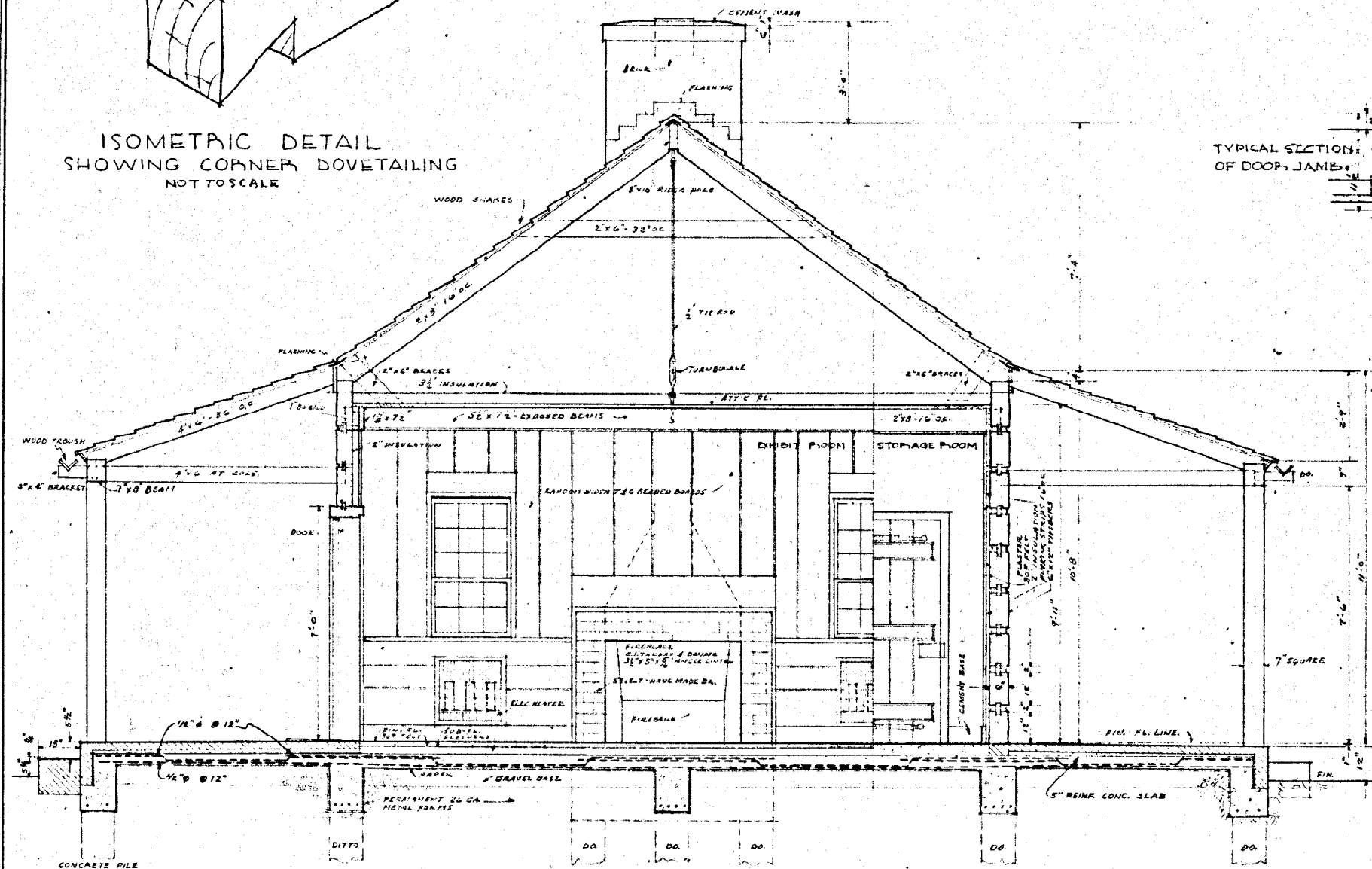


SCALE $\frac{1}{4}'' = 1'-0''$.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE ARCHITECTURAL DIVISION TUPELO, MISS.	REGION 1
	P.C.P. No. 6-40 DATE, MAY 12, 1940
	DRAWING NO. PKY NT 2487-C
	SHEET 2 OF 3
INFORMATION STATION RIDGELAND DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS SEC. 3-0 NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY	

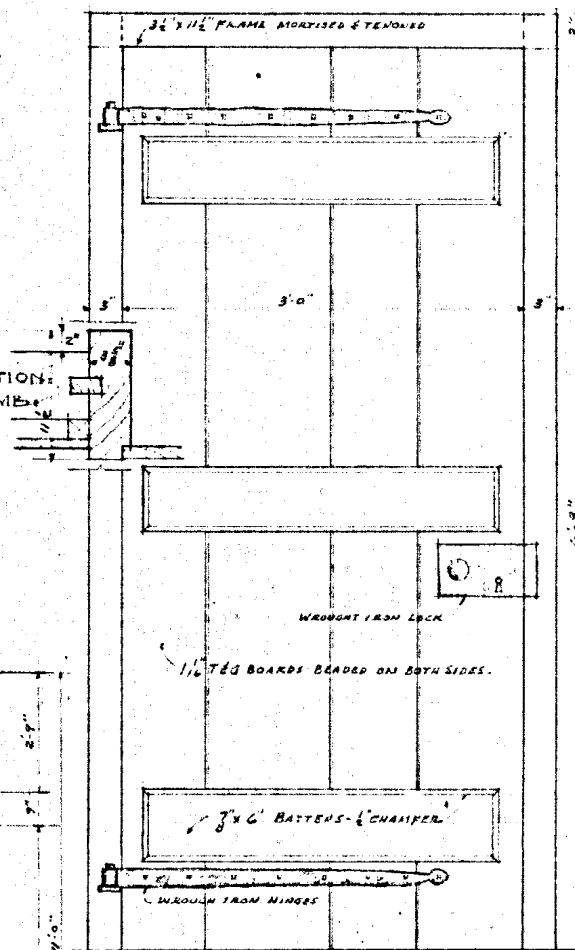


ISOMETRIC DETAIL
SHOWING CORNER DOVETAILING
NOT TO SCALE



SECTION
SCALE 1/2"=1'-0"

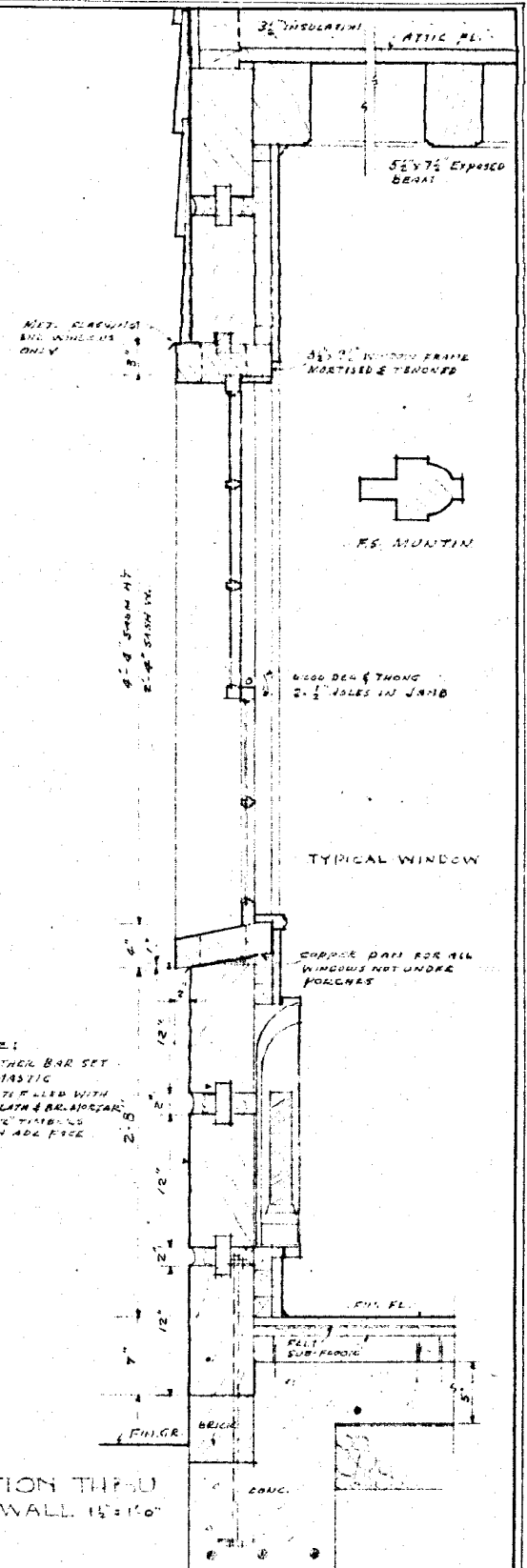
TYPICAL SECTION
OF DOOR JAMB



ELEVATION OF DOOR
12'-1'-0"

NOTE:
WEATHER BAR SET
IN MASTIC
JOINTS FILLED WITH
MEX LATH & REBAR
8" X 12" TUBULARS
WITH 400 FIBER

SECTION THRU
END WALL 15'-10"



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE ARCHITECTURAL DIVISION TUPELO, MISS.	2487-C
	REGION 1
	P.C.P. No B-40 DATE MAY 12 1950
	DRAWING NO. PKY NT 2487-C
INFORMATION STATION RIDGELAND DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS SEC. 3-0 NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY	
SHEET 3 OF 3	

Appendix B

Final Construction Report, 1951

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY
TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI

BUILDINGS AND INCIDENTAL WORK
RIDGELAND DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS
SECTION 3-0
RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI
CONTRACT NO. I-27np-333

FINAL CONSTRUCTION REPORT

BY
ROBERT E. SMITH
ARCHITECT
NOVEMBER 15, 1951

RIDGELAND DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS

The work at the Ridgeland District Headquarters was divided into two units, an Information Station and a Maintenance Area.

The Maintenance Area includes four buildings, paved court, storage yard, sewage disposal system, and planting area. The area is enclosed with a chain-link fence.

The Information Station consists of one building, walks, and planting area.

LOCATION

The Ridgeland District Headquarters is located east of the intersection of the Natchez Trace Parkway, Section 3-0, and U. S. Highway No. 51, in the immediate vicinity of Ridgeland, Madison County, Mississippi.

ACCOMMODATIONS

A. Maintenance Area

1. Office and Shop - Maintenance Foreman's Office, Ranger's Office, Supply Room, Toilets, Locker Room, Janitor's Closet, and Shop.
2. Equipment Storage Building - Eight stalls for storing motorized and rolling equipment.
3. Warehouse and Material Storage Building - Two storage rooms.
4. Oil and Paint Storage Building - Two storage rooms, grease room, wash room, and gasoline pump.

- #### B. Information Station - Exhibit room, women's room, men's room, storage room, utility room, dog-trot, and two porches.

TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION

A. Maintenance Area

Semi-fire resistant construction.

Foundations: Bored cast-in-place reinforced concrete piles, reinforced concrete grade beams, foundation walls and piers.

Super-Structure: Structural steel columns, roof beams and purlins, window frames, and miscellaneous angles.

Exterior Walls: Walls for Oil and Paint Storage Building are eight-inch brick walls, with pilasters for supporting roof beams and purlins. Exterior walls for all other buildings are eight-inch non-supporting brick walls.

Partitions: Brick, concrete block, and hollow tile construction.

Tile: Glazed tile wainscot in toilets.

Floors: Reinforced concrete.

Roof: Metal roof deck covered with 1" thickness of semi-rigid insulation and four plies of built-up roofing covered with slag.

Doors, Windows and Frames: Structural steel window frames, commercial protected metal windows; stamped steel door frames, metal swing doors; wood overhead type doors.

Plaster: Gypsum plaster, smooth finish. Partitions and ceilings in office wing of the Office and Shop and the ceilings of the paint room and the oil room of the Oil and Paint Storage Building, are plastered.

Finish: Exterior surfaces of metal and wood, with the exception of copper, are painted. Interior surfaces of office wing of the Office and Shop and all structural steel, doors, and windows, are painted.

Heat: Office and Shop only: Two-zone forced circulation hot water system; gas-fired boiler, automatic controls. The office wing is heated by wall-fin heaters in each room. The shop is heated by three horizontal blow unit heaters.

Electrical Work: Rigid conduit system. Interior fixtures, with minor exceptions, are fluorescent; exterior fixtures are weather proof; explosion proof fixtures are installed in the oil and paint rooms.

Plumbing: Office and Shop toilets, shower, service sink, scullery sink, water cooler, water heater and hose connections. Hose connections are also located at the Oil and Paint Storage Building.

Fixed Equipment: Hydraulic automobile lift, chain hoist and trolley. Air compressor, gasoline pump and storage tank.

Court: Two course, cold-mix asphalt surface and gravel base.

Fence and Gates: Galvanized, chain-link.

Sewage Disposal System: Concrete septic tank, distribution box, soil lines, leaching trenches.

Utilities: Water and gas connections, overhead power service.

Landscape: Planting areas were covered with topsoil containing Bermuda grass roots.

B. Information Station

Log type Construction:

Foundations: Bored cast-in-place reinforced concrete piles, reinforced concrete floor construction and grade beams.

Masonry: The chimneys, floor for porches, and walks, are constructed of sand finished hand-made bricks.

Exterior Wall Construction: Log type construction using 6" x 12" oak timbers, adzed on exposed surfaces to simulate hewn logs, joints have a 2" x 4" spline and are chinked with mortar. Inside of walls are furred and covered with wood boards, plaster and tile. Gables are constructed of wood framing and are covered with oak siding.

Partitions: Glazed tile and concrete blocks.

Floors: Wood, brick, quarry tile, and concrete.

Roof: Wood roof construction - rafters, braces, sheathing, etc. Hand split cedar shakes. Metal flashing.

Attic: Two inch T & G wood flooring on wood beams and joists. Attic not finished.

Doors, Windows, and Frames: Long leaf yellow pine. Doors are constructed of boards and battens.

Tile: Glazed tile wainscot in toilets.

Plaster: Gypsum plaster, smooth finish on walls and ceiling in all rooms except Exhibit room.

Interior Woodwork: The walls of the exhibit room are covered with random width beaded board. The flooring is random width heart pine boards. The ceiling is the exposed underside of the attic floor on wood beams.

Insulation: Two-inch thickness of insulation located between furring strips on outside walls. Three and one-half inch thickness of insulation placed on attic floor.

Finish: All exterior woodwork is stained weathered grey. The interior woodwork is stained light grey. All plaster is painted.

Heat: Thermostatically controlled electric wall heaters in each room.

Electric Work: Conduit system, lantern type exterior fixtures. Combination air diffuses and lighting fixture for the exhibit room, and toilets. Flush ceiling fixtures in the storage room and the utility room.

Plumbing: Toilets, water cooler, drinking fountain, water heater and hose connections.

Air Conditioning: Self-contained automatic unit located in the utility room. Air is carried to the exhibit room and toilets through insulated metal ducts and air diffusers.

Sewage Disposal System: Concrete septic tank, distribution box, soil lines, and leaching trenches.

Utilities: Water and power connections. Underground power service.

Landscape: The site was graded and seeded prior to this contract. The contractor repaired damages to the grading caused by his work.

SIZE

Maintenance Area

Office and Shop	3697 Sq. Ft.
Equipment Storage Building	3211 Sq. Ft.
Warehouse and Material Storage Building	2747 Sq. Ft.
Oil and Paint Storage Building	1557 Sq. Ft.
Court.	18,500 Sq. Ft.
Storage Yard	37,560 Sq. Ft.
Fences and Gates	820 Lin. Ft.
<u>Information Station</u>	<u>2240 Sq. Ft.</u>

DESIGN, PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

Prepared by the Design and Construction Division,
Natchez Trace Parkway, Tupelo, Mississippi.

WORKING DRAWINGS APPROVAL

Approved by Thomas J. Allen, Regional Director, on May 19, 1950.

BIDS AND BIDDERS

Invitation for Bids - May 22, 1950.

Bids Received - June 20, 1950.

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Base Bid</u>	<u>Added Piles P.L.F.</u>	<u>Reduced Piles P.L.F.</u>	<u>Alternate Bid "A"</u>
Capitol Constr. Co. Jackson, Miss.	\$163,367.00	0.95	0.85	\$18,397.00
Campbell Constr. Co. Jackson, Miss.	157,319.00	1.05	0.85	19,993.00
L. A. Harvey, Contractor Jackson, Miss.	128,493.00	1.25	0.75	17,000.00
Perry Constr. Co. Philadelphia, Miss.	153,530.00	3.00	0.70	21,204.00
Central Constr. Co. Philadelphia, Miss.	139,807.00	1.40	0.85	20,000.00
Logan C. Cline Constr. Co. Memphis, Tenn.	139,685.00	0.965	0.905	17,694.00
G. E. Bass & Co. Jackson, Miss.	144,013.00	1.05	0.75	18,453.00

CONTRACTOR:

L. A. Harvey, Contractor
P. O. Box 4472, Fondren Station
Jackson, Mississippi

SUB-CONTRACTORS:

Concrete Piling - Hart-McCown Foundation Co., Inc., Jackson, Miss.
Structural Steel - Miss. Steel and Iron Co., Inc., Jackson, Miss.
Roofing and Sheet Metal Work - Standard Roofing and Siding Co.,
Jackson, Mississippi.

Lath and Plaster - W. A. Burkett, Van Winkle, Mississippi.
Gates and Fences - Fred Thrasher Co., Jackson, Mississippi.
Fixed Equipment - Whit's Oil Equipment Co., Jackson, Mississippi.
Glass and Glazing - Capitol Paint and Glass Co., Jackson, Miss.
Painting - M. W. Barnett, Jackson, Mississippi.
Plumbing, Heating, Electrical Work and Air Conditioning -
Lexington Construction Co., Lexington, Mississippi.
Surfacing - Delta Paving Co., Jackson, Mississippi.

NOTICE OF AWARD

Base bid accepted; contract awarded June 27, 1951.

DATE OF CONTRACT;

June 28, 1950.

CONTRACT APPROVED:

August 2, 1950, by Millory A. Tolson, Acting Director.

ORDER TO PROCEED:

September 8, 1950.

NOTICE OF BEGINNING DATE:

September 18, 1950.

FUNDS PROGRAMMED

Office and Shop	B-54	\$ 55,800
Equipment Storage Building	B-6	48,600
Oil and Paint Storage Building	B-62	19,800
Warehouse and Mat'l. Stor. Bldg.	B-63	33,300

Court Paving	R-163	\$ 10,982
Sewage Disposal Sys., Maint. Ar.	U-34	3,060
Information Station	B-40	49,000
Sewage Disposal Sys., Info. Sta.	U-42	1,440
Electric Power & Telephone	U-43	<u>1,080</u>
	TOTAL:	\$223,062

ALLOTMENTS:

March 15, 1950:

Information Station, Acct. No. 315.101	\$ 30,000.00
Buildings, Maint. Area, Acct. No. 315.102	93,712.15
Sewage Disposal System, Information Station, Acct. 315.176	1,442.10
Water, Power, and Telephone Connections, Acct. 315.177	1,082.05
Sewage Disposal System, Maint. Area, Acct. No. 315.179	<u>3,064.70</u>
	TOTAL: \$129,301.00

COST:

Original Contract Price	\$128,493.00
Change Order No. 1, letter dated 9/19/50 - Deduct	357.00
Change Order No. 6, letter dated 4/20/51 - Deduct	<u>120.00</u>
	\$128,016.00
Change Order No. 3, letter dated 1/22/51 - Add	304.00
Change Order No. 4, letter dated 1/25/51 - Add	411.00

Change Order No. 5, letter dated 3/29/51 - Add

491.00

\$129,222.00

Additional expense incurred not under Contract

79.00

TOTAL COST:

\$129,301.00

MONTHLY ESTIMATES:

Estimate No. 1	\$ 6,120.00
Estimate No. 2	7,650.00
Estimate No. 3	7,380.00
Estimate No. 4	7,650.00
Estimate No. 5	19,800.00
Estimate No. 6	13,530.00
Estimate No. 7	12,300.00
Estimate No. 8	10,300.00
Estimate No. 9	11,800.00
Estimate No. 10	10,200.00
Estimate No. 11	9,500.00
Estimate No. 12	4,500.00
Estimate No. 13	1,400.00
Estimate No. 14	<u>7,092.00</u>

TOTAL:

\$129,222.00

CONTRACT TIME

The original contract time, September 18, 1950, to July 14, 1951; extended fifteen (15) calendar days to July 29, 1951, by Change Order No. 1, dated September 19, 1950; extended forty-seven (47) calendar days to September 14, 1951, by Change Order No. 2, dated December 1, 1950; extended five (5) calendar days to September 19, 1951, by Change Order No. 3, dated January 22, 1951; extended five (5) calendar days to September 24, 1951, by Change Order No. 4, dated January 25, 1951; extended sixteen (16) calendar days to October 10, 1951, by "Stop Order," dated January 26, 1951, and "Resume Order," dated February 9, 1951; extended five (5) calendar days to October 15, 1951, by Change Order No. 5, dated March 29, 1951; extended five (5) calendar days to October 20, 1951, by Change Order No. 6, dated April 20, 1951; extended ten (10) calendar days to October 30, 1951, by Change Order No. 7, dated August 1, 1951.

Total Extension of Time: 108 days

Construction Work Started: September 18, 1950.

Construction Work Completed: October 30, 1951

Final Inspection: Maintenance Area - August 9, 1951.

Information Station - October 30, 1951.

REVIEW OF OPERATION

The sites for the Information Station and the Maintenance Area at the Ridgeland District Headquarters were previously graded and only minor grading was necessary under this contract.

The construction work started with the surveying of the sites to locate the buildings and to establish the required elevations. A field office and tool house was moved on the job shortly after the work started.

Samples of materials, manufacturers' literature, and shop drawings were submitted for approval in accordance with the requirements of the specifications.

Due to the heavy demand for materials and skilled workmen, the contractor had difficulty in obtaining materials and in retaining first class workmen.

The soil prevalent in the area is a plastic clay formation which swells and shifts laterally with the variations in moisture content. Bored cast-in-place reinforced concrete piles were used to support the buildings. The piles extend into a blue clay formation, having a constant moisture content, at about thirty feet from the ground surface.

With the exception of pile work, the concrete work was delayed because of a local carpenter's strike which held up the construction of form work. Concrete was used for construction of grade beams, beams, foundation walls, piers, floors, septic tanks, distribution boxes, steps, walk, and curbs. Ready-mix concrete was used for all concrete work.

The structural steel work was delayed due to a strike of local steel workers and due to the scarcity of a number of small steel sections. The contractor furnished heavier steel sections in some instances, without extra cost, in order to expedite the work.

Brick masonry work at the Maintenance Area was constructed of common bricks laid in mortar mix. The contractor was not able to find acceptable new hand-made sand finished bricks for the Information Station; however, after extensive searching, acceptable bricks were found and selected from an old building. The contractor hired a competent crew of brick masons but could not retain the masons because of the delay in constructing the work preceeding the masonry work. Three additional crews of masons were hired before the work was completed.

The roofing and roof decking were delivered and installed on schedule. Galvanized flashing was substituted for copper on two buildings due to the scarcity of copper.

Standard doors and frames at the Maintenance Area were delivered and installed on schedule.

The contractor had difficulty in locating wood materials for the Information Station. Oak timbers and heavy long leaf yellow pine timbers had to be sawed to order. One-inch and two-inch material was finally located at various lumber companies. The woodwork was shaped and erected by skilled carpenters having little experience in log construction. Skilled woodsmen probably could have erected the log work much faster. The cedar

shakes for the roof were delivered ahead of schedule; however, additional shingles had to be ordered to complete the work.

The contractor could not obtain the metal toilet partitions without a Defense Order and this item was omitted from the contract by Change Order No. 7.

Plastered surfaces were finished with smooth finish Gypsum plaster on metal lath and masonry.

The electrical lighting and power systems for all buildings were installed in rigid metal conduits. The conduit installations in the office wing of the Office and Shop and in the Information Station are concealed. The underground power service to the main switch in the Office and Shop was omitted by Change Order No. 1. Overhead power service was installed by the power company. Underground power service for the Information Station was installed by the power company. The trench for the cable was excavated and backfilled by the contractor under Change Order No. 5.

The plumbing work was installed without changes or serious delay. The water system for the area was installed under another contract and connections were made by this contract.

The Office and Shop and the Information Station are the only buildings that have heating systems. The Office and Shop has a two-zone forced hot water system, using wall-fin heaters and cabinets in the office wing and unit heaters in the shop. Natural gas fuel for this system is supplied by the Town of Ridgeland, Mississippi.

The Information Station is heated by wall-type electric heaters controlled by thermostat. The walls and ceiling of this building are insulated in order to reduce the heat loss.

An air conditioning system was installed in the Information Station for cooling the building during hot weather.

The Maintenance Area is enclosed by a chain-link fence. The storage yard was enlarged by changes in the location of the fence and by adding forty (40) additional feet of fence.

The court was paved with a 2" thickness of cold-mix asphalt laid on an 8" compacted gravel base. Sub-surface drains were installed prior to the construction of the gravel base.

The planting areas were covered with a good quality of topsoil containing Bermuda grass roots. Planting of shrubs and trees was not included under this contract.

The weather condition was average during the construction and the work was delayed only sixteen days due to unfavorable weather.

In general, the work progressed slowly due primarily to the delay in delivery of materials and due to the lack of competent labor.

W. M. Loftis, Jr., Civil Engineer, GS-5, was assigned to the area to supervise the construction work. He was transferred on June 16, 1951, to the Great Smoky Mountain National Park.

DATE November 26, 1951

REGION One AREA Natchez Trace Parkway STATE Mississippi
PROJECT OR JOB TITLE Buildings and Incidental Work
Ridgeland District Headquarters PCP OR JOB NO. B-6, B-40, B-54,
B-62, B-63, M-97,
R-163, U-34, U-42, U-43
LOCATION IN AREA Section 3-0 MASTER PLAN NO. PKY/NT-2274A-1 BLDG. NO. R-1, R-2, R-3, R-4, R-5
WORKING DWG. NO. & TITLE (See Below - Remarks) "AS CONST." DWG. SUBM. BY (DATE) _____
APPROPRIATION TITLE & SYMBOL 1/X1035 Construction and
Acquisition of Land, NPS ACCT. NO. 315.101;
315.102;
315.176;
315.177;
315.179 S&MC PROJ. SYMBOL -

CONSTRUCTION DATA

CONSTRUCTION ITEMS	QUANTITIES	SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES
(SEE BELOW - REMARKS) started sept. 18, 1950 completed oct 30, 1951		01 PERSONAL SERVICES
		02 TRAVEL
		03 TRANS. OF THINGS
		04 COMM. SERVICES
		05 RENTS & UTIL. SERV.
		06 PRINTING & REPROD.
		07 OTHER CONTR. SERV.
		08 SUPPLIES & MATERIALS 65.66
		09 EQUIPMENT
		10 LANDS & STRUCTURES 129,222.00
		15 TAXES & ASSESSMENTS
		TOTAL CONSTRUCTION COSTS 129,287.66
		TOTAL CONSTRUCTION ALLOT. 129,301.00
		UNOBLIGATED BALANCE 13.34
		TECH. SUPERVISION COSTS
		TOTAL TECH. SUPER. ALLOT.
		UNOBLIGATED BALANCE
		TOTAL PROJECT COST 129,287.66

REMARKS: The work was done under one contract No. I-27np-333 with L. A. Harvey, Contractor, Jackson, Mississippi.

Bl.No.	Item	PCP No.	Drawing No.	Estimated Cost	Quantities
R-5	Information Station	B-40	PKY/NT-2487-C	30,000.00	1
R-1	Office and Shop	B-54	PKY/NT-2384-A	37,500.00	1
R-4	Warehouse & Mat'l Stor. Bldg.	B-63	PKY/NT-2388-A	18,000.00	1
R-2	Equipment Storage Bldg.	B-6	PKY/NT-2389-A	20,000.00	1
R-3	Oil and Paint Stor. Bldg.	B-62	PKY/NT-2390-A	13,422.00	1
	Paved Court	R-163	PKY/NT-2261-D	5,500.00	1
	Sewage Disposal Sys., M.A.	U-34	PKY/NT-5372	1,500.00	1
	Sewage Disposal Sys., Inf.Sta.	U-42	PKY/NT-5372	1,500.00	1
	Gates and Fences	M-97	PKY/NT-2261-D	2,700.00	820 Lin.Ft.
	Utility Connections	U-43		100.00	5
				129,222.00	

THIS PROJECT OR JOB HAS BEEN COMPLETED IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPROVED DRAWINGS, SPECIFICATIONS AND AUTHORIZED CHANGES

SUBMITTED: Robert E. Smith DATE 11/26-51
Robert E. Smith TITLE Architect
CONCURRED: (Sgd.) Malcolm Gardner 12-11-51
Malcolm Gardner, SUPERINTENDENT

CONCURRED: V. E. Lidgate DATE DEC 2 1951
Acting ASST. REGIONAL DIRECTOR (D&C)
APPROVED: E. M. Lile DEC 26 1951
Acting REGIONAL DIRECTOR



Maintenance Area - Site before Construction - 8/9/50



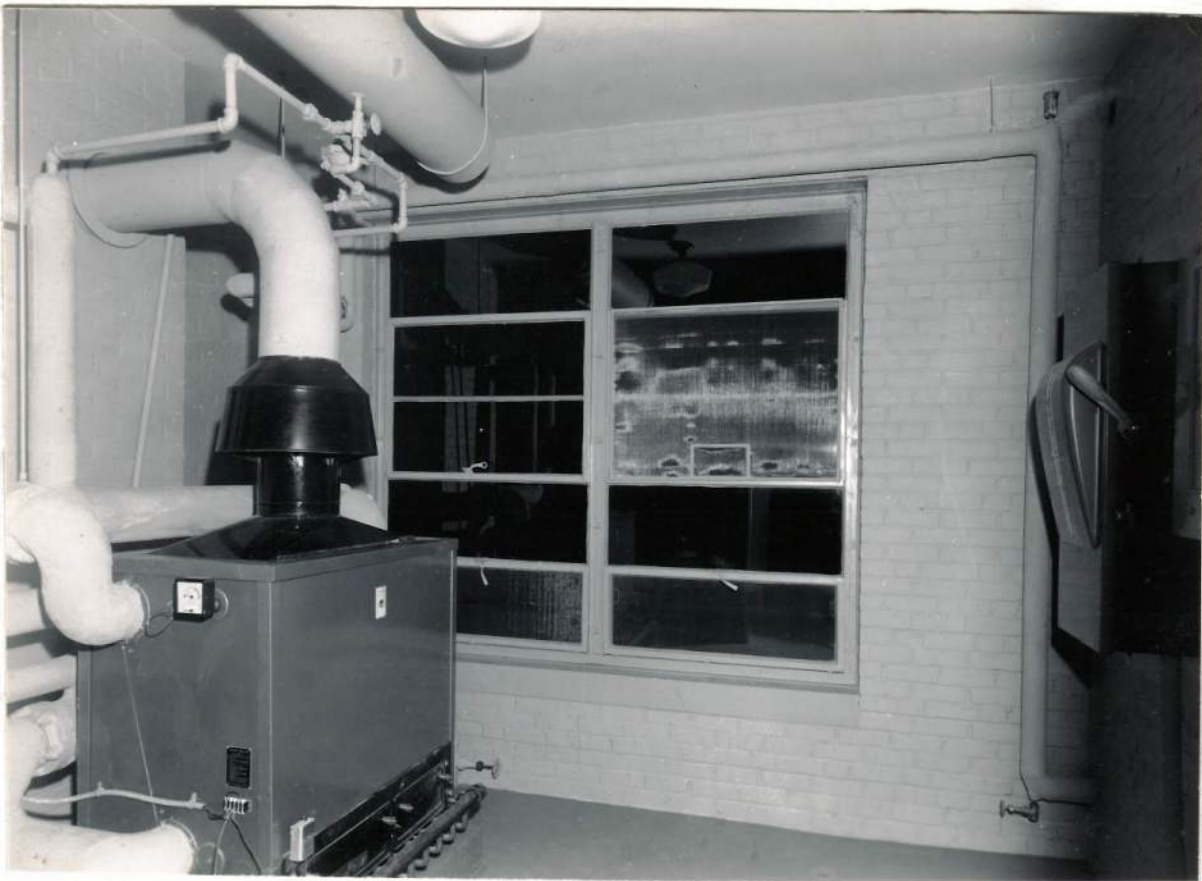
Maintenance Area - Site at Beginning of Construction - 10/16/50



Maintenance Area - Oil and Paint Storage Building - 1/16/51



Maintenance Area - Construction - 3/9/51



Maintenance Area - View of Boiler Room



Maintenance Area - View of Shop



Maintenance Area -- View looking Northwest



Maintenance Area -- View looking Southeast, 5/23/51



Maintenance Area - Oil and Paint Storage Building



Maintenance Area - Equipment Storage Building



Maintenance Area - Office and Shop



Maintenance Area - Warehouse and Material Storage Room



Information Station - 1/16/51



Information Station - Site before construction - 10/16/50



Information Station - 8/2/51



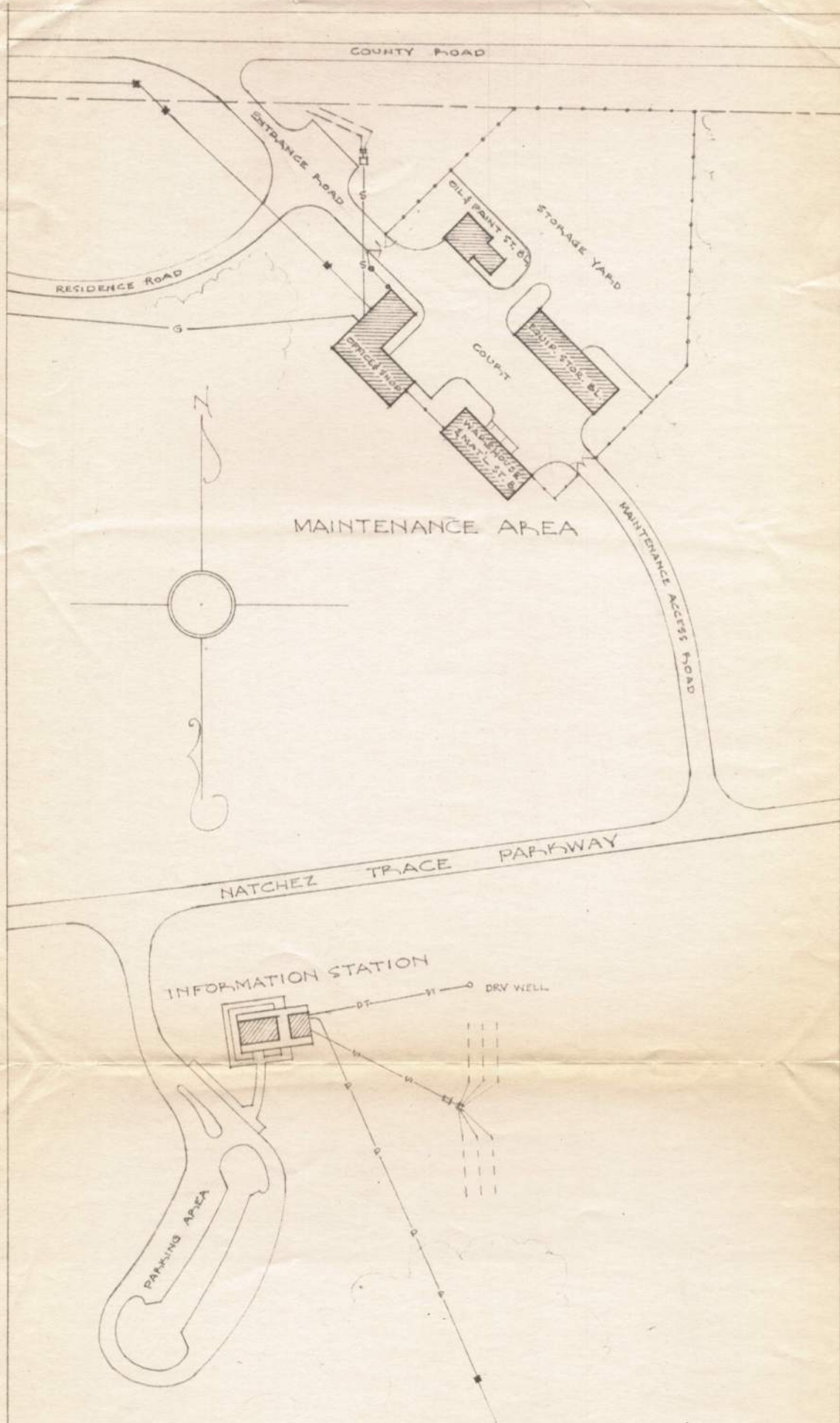
Information Station - 6/21/51



Information Station



Exhibit Room - Information Station



Appendix C

Geotechnical Report, 2015

BURNS COOLEY DENNIS, INC.

GEOTECHNICAL AND MATERIALS ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS

Corporate Office

551 Sunnybrook Road
Ridgeland, MS 39157
Phone: (601) 856-9911
Fax: (601) 856-9774

Mailing Address

Post Office Box 12828
Jackson, MS 39236

www.bcdgeo.com

Materials Laboratory

278 Commerce Park Drive
Ridgeland, MS 39157
Phone: (601) 856-2332
Fax: (601) 856-3552

September 4, 2015

Mr. Barry Boyd
Natchez Trace Parkway
2680 Natchez Trace Parkway
Tupelo, Mississippi 38804

Report No. 150550

Exploration of Subsurface Soil Conditions And Floor Level Survey Natchez Trace Visitor Center Ridgeland, Mississippi

Dear Mr. Boyd:

Submitted here is the report of our exploration of subsurface soil conditions and the results of a floor level survey conducted at the Natchez Trace Visitor Center in Ridgeland, Mississippi. These services were authorized in your e-mail dated August 14, 2015 and were generally performed in accordance with our e-mail to you dated June 10, 2015. We caution that this report merely presents the soil conditions encountered at the locations of the borings. No recommendations are provided as part of the report.

Field Exploration

Subsurface soil conditions adjacent to the building were explored by means of four borings. The approximate locations of the borings are shown on Figure 1 of this report. All soils were classified in general accordance with the Unified Soil Classification System. A synopsis of the Unified Soil Classification System is presented on Figure 2 along with symbols and terminology typically utilized on graphical soil boring logs. Graphical logs of the borings are presented on Figures 3 through 6. The graphical logs illustrate the types of soil encountered with depth below the existing surface at the individual boring locations. GPS coordinates for the boring locations as determined using a hand-held device are shown at the bottom of the graphical logs within the "Comments" section.

Borings 1 and 3 were made to an exploration depth 35 ft and Borings 2 and 4 were made to an exploration depth of 15 ft. Borings 1 and 3 were initially advanced by dry augering to depths of 10 ft and 15 ft, respectively, and then further advanced to completion using rotary wash drilling procedures. Borings 2 and 4 were advanced full depth by dry augering. Relatively undisturbed samples of the soils encountered in the borings were obtained by pushing a 3-in. OD Shelby tube sampler approximately 2 ft into the soil. The Shelby tube samples were obtained within the depth intervals illustrated as shaded portions of the "Samples" column of the graphic logs. Disturbed samples of the soils encountered in the borings were obtained by driving a standard 2-in. OD split-spoon sampler 18 in. into the soil with a 140-lb hammer falling freely a distance of 30 in. The depths at which the split-spoon samples were taken are illustrated as crossed rectangular symbols under the "Samples" column of the graphic logs. Standard penetration test (SPT) blow counts resulting from split-spoon sampling are recorded under the "Blows Per Ft" column of the logs. The Shelby tube and/or split-spoon samples were obtained at approximate 3-ft to 5-ft depth intervals. Disturbed auger cutting samples were also obtained near the ground surface and at select depths between the Shelby tube and/or split-spoon samples in the borings. The depths at which the auger cutting samples were taken are illustrated as small I-shaped symbols under the "Samples" column of the graphic boring logs.

All soils encountered during drilling were examined and classified in the field by a geotechnical engineering technician. Each undisturbed Shelby tube sample was extruded from the sampling tube in the field. An approximate 6-in. long portion of each Shelby tube sample was sealed with melted paraffin in a cylindrical cardboard container to prevent moisture loss and structural disturbance. An additional portion of each Shelby tube sample, representative portions of the split-spoon samples, and the auger cutting samples were sealed in jars to provide material for visual examination and testing in the laboratory.

Observations were made continuously during auger drilling to detect free water entering the open boreholes. Notes pertaining to groundwater observations are included at the bottom right corner of the graphic boring logs. In compliance with Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) regulations, the 35-ft deep boreholes were filled with cement-bentonite grout after completion of drilling and sampling. The 15-ft deep boreholes were plugged with soil cuttings.

Laboratory Testing

All of the soil samples from the borings were examined in the laboratory and tests were performed on selected samples to verify field classifications and to assist in evaluating the strengths and volume change properties of the soils encountered. The types of laboratory tests performed are described in the following paragraphs.

The undrained shear strength characteristics of the fine-grained soils encountered in the borings were investigated by means of visual estimates of consistency and from the results of the unconfined compression tests performed on selected undisturbed Shelby tube samples. The results of the unconfined compression tests in terms of cohesion are plotted as small open circles in the

data section of the graphic boring logs. The water content and dry density were also determined for each unconfined compression test specimen. The water contents are plotted as small shaded circles in the data section of the logs. The dry densities are tabulated to the nearest lb per cu ft under the "Dry Density" column of the graphic boring logs.

The classifications and volume change properties of the fine-grained soils encountered in the borings were investigated by means of Atterberg liquid and plastic limit tests performed on selected representative samples. The results of the liquid and plastic limit tests are plotted as small crosses interconnected by dashed lines in the data section of the graphic boring logs. In accordance with the Unified Soil Classification System, fine-grained soils are classified as either clays or silts of low or high plasticity based on the results of Atterberg limit tests. The numerical difference between the liquid limit and plastic limit is defined as the plasticity index (PI). The magnitudes of the liquid limit and plasticity index and the proximity of the natural water content to the plastic limit are indicators of the potential for a fine-grained soil to shrink or swell upon changes in moisture content or to consolidate under loading. The proximity of the natural water content to the plastic limit is also an indicator of soil strength.

Water content tests were performed on samples to corroborate field classifications and to extend the usefulness of the strength, plasticity and field SPT blow count data. The results of the water content tests are plotted as small shaded circles in the data section of the graphic boring logs. The water content data have been interconnected on the logs to illustrate a continuous profile with depth.

General Subsurface Conditions

A general description of subsurface soil and water conditions encountered in the borings made for this investigation is provided in the following paragraphs. The graphical logs shown on Figures 3 through 6 should be referred to for specific subsurface conditions encountered at each boring location. Stick logs of the borings are shown in profile on Figure 7 to aid in visualizing subsurface soil conditions. Tabulated adjacent to the stick logs are liquid and plastic limits, water contents and dry densities.

Soils encountered in the boring consist of fill materials underlain by silty clays (CL) and then clays (CH) of the Yazoo formation. Fine-grained fill materials were not easily distinguished from the natural fine-grained soils. Only those soils that were confidently identified as fill are labeled as fill materials on the boring logs. Other soils at the site might also be fill materials.

The ground surface at Borings 2 and 3 was found to be underlain by silty sand (SM) fill materials to an approximate depth 1.5 ft. The silty sand (SM) fill materials are characterized as medium dense and are considered to have moderate strength and low compressibility. The silty sand (SM) fill materials have no potential for shrinking and swelling.

The silty sand (SM) fill materials at Boring 2 are underlain by silty clay (CL) fill materials. The silty clay (CL) fill materials are classified hard with respect to consistency and are considered to

have high strength and low compressibility. The silty clay (CL) fill materials are considered to have low shrink/swell potential. The silty clay (CL) fill materials extend to a depth of about 6.5 ft at Boring 2.

The silty clay (CH) fill materials at Boring 2 are underlain by Yazoo clay (CH) fill materials. The Yazoo clay (CH) fill materials are classified as very stiff and are considered to have high strength and low compressibility. The Yazoo clay (CH) fill materials are considered to be expansive with high shrink/swell potential. The Yazoo clay (CH) fill materials extend to a depth of about 8 ft.

The Yazoo clay (CH) fill materials at Boring 2, the silty sand (SM) fill materials at Boring 3 and the ground surface at Borings 1 and 4 are underlain by silty clays (CL). The silty clays extend to depths ranging from about 5 ft at Boring 1 to about 8 ft at Borings 3 and 4. Silty clays (CL) were also encountered in the interval from about 8 ft to 12 ft at Boring 1. The silty clays (CL) are classified as very stiff and hard with respect to consistency and are considered to have high strength and low compressibility. The silty clays (CL) are considered to have low to moderate shrink/swell potential.

The silty clays (CL) at Borings 1 and 3 are underlain by clays (CH) to depths of about 8 ft and 12 ft, respectively. The clays (CH) are classified as very stiff and hard with respect to consistency and are considered to have high strength and low compressibility. The clays (CH) are considered to be expansive with high shrink/swell potential.

Weathered Yazoo clays (CH) were encountered at approximate depths of 12 ft at Borings 1 and 3, 13 ft at Boring 2, and 8 ft at Boring 4. The weathered Yazoo clays (CH) are classified as very stiff and hard with respect to consistency and are considered to have high strength and low compressibility. The weathered Yazoo clays (CH) are expansive with high shrink/swell potential. The weathered Yazoo clays (CH) extend to the 15-ft and 35-ft termination depths of Borings 1, 2 and 4, and to a depth of about 33 ft at Boring 3.

Unweathered blue Yazoo clays (CH) were encountered at a depth of approximately 33 ft at Boring 3 and were found to extend to the 35-ft boring termination depth. The unweathered Yazoo clays (CH) are classified as hard with respect to consistency and are considered to have high strength and low compressibility. The unweathered Yazoo clays (CH) are highly expansive.

Free water was not encountered during auger drilling for the borings. In our opinion, groundwater conditions within the area of the building can fluctuate and will primarily be influenced by rainfall, surface drainage, and by the rise and fall of water levels in any nearby ditches, creeks, ponds or other bodies of water. Groundwater conditions can also be influenced by man-made changes. Surficial soils can become saturated and weak to relatively shallow depths during periods of prolonged and heavy rainfall.

Floor Level Survey

The magnitude and pattern of differential movements within the building were evaluated by means of a relative elevation survey of the top of the slab. The level survey was conducted on

August 26, 2015 and was performed using a "ZIPLEVEL PRO-2000" gas-pressured manometer elevation measurement system. The survey basically consisted of measuring the differences in elevation on top of the slab at numerous locations throughout the Natchez Trace Visitor Center building and surrounding porch. The results of the floor level survey are presented as a two-dimensional contour plot on Figure 8. Relative spot elevations that were measured during the survey are also shown on Figure 8. All elevations are in inches and are relative to the elevation of the point labeled "Base". Cross-sections of the floor level survey are shown on Figure 9.

Relative spot elevations measured during the survey indicate a maximum difference in elevation of about 10 in. The slab generally slopes down from north to south. The high point is near the center along the north edge, and the low point is near the southwest corner.

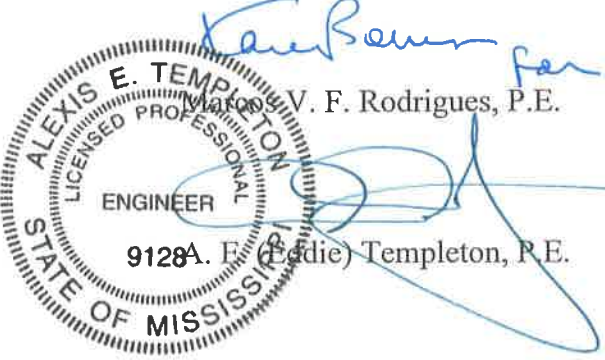
Report Limitations

We caution that this report merely presents subsurface conditions encountered at the locations of the borings and the results of a floor level survey conducted at the Natchez Trace Visitor Center building. It should be understood that subsurface conditions between and beyond the borings might differ from those encountered at the boring locations. The only warranty made by us in connection with the services provided is we have used that degree of care and skill ordinarily exercised under similar conditions by reputable members of our profession practicing in the same or similar locality. No other warranty, express or implied, is made or intended.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service. If you should have any questions concerning this report, please do not hesitate to call us.

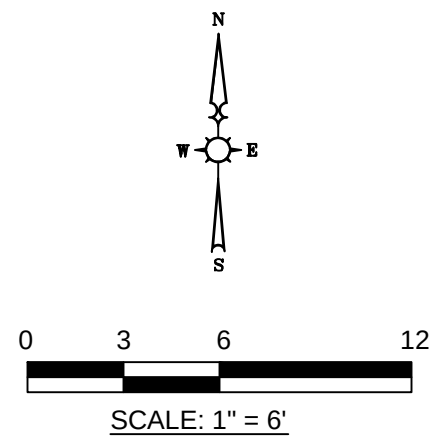
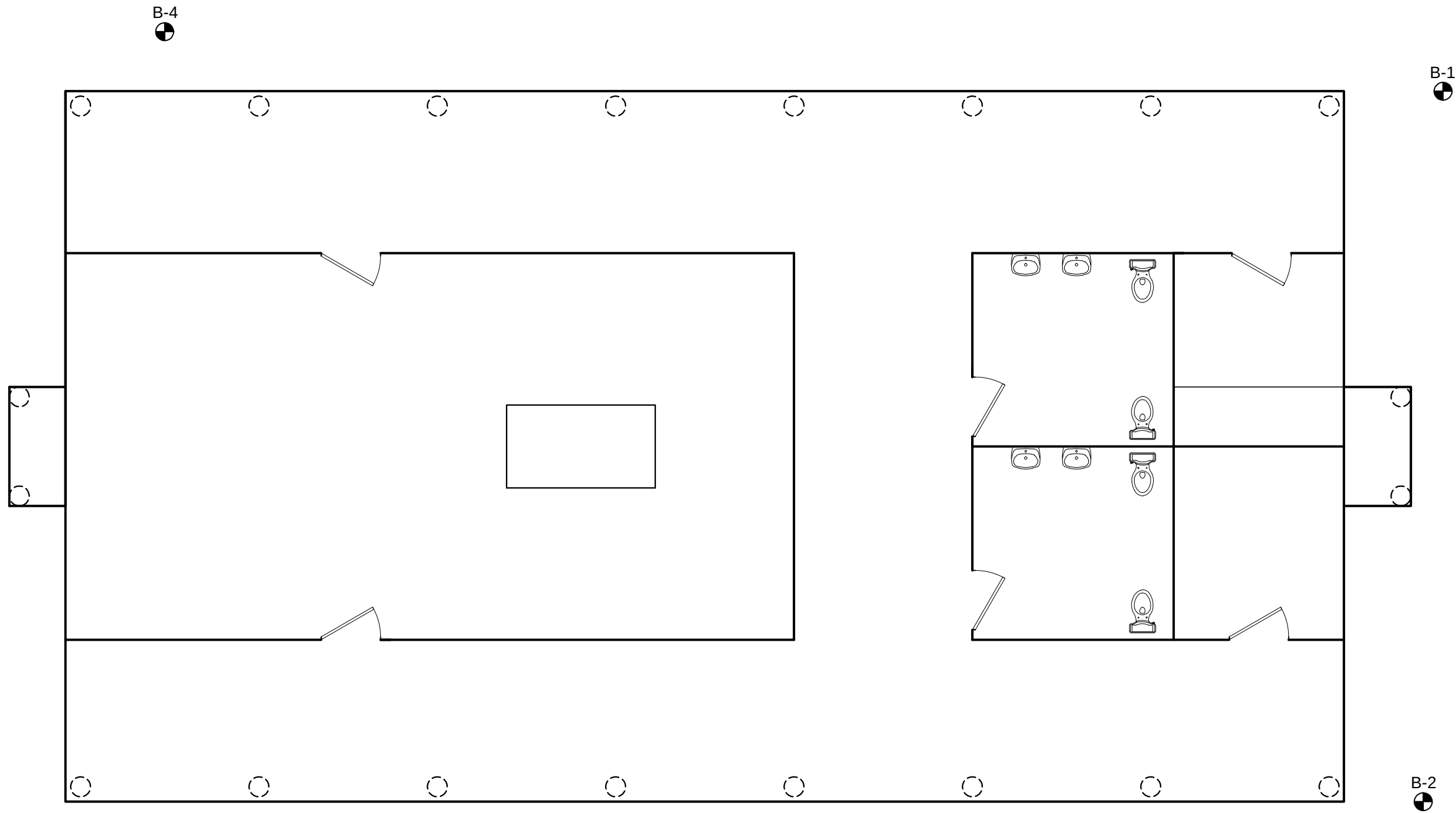
Very truly yours,

BURNS COOLEY DENNIS, INC.


V. F. Rodrigues, P.E.
Alexis E. Templeton, P.E.

AET/MR/khb

Copies Submitted: (2)



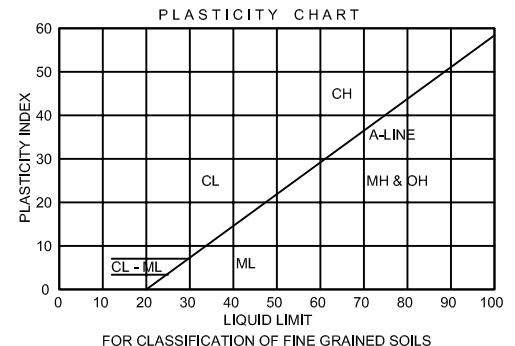
Approximate Boring Locations		
NATCHEZ TRACE VISITOR CENTER BUILDING RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI		
BURNS COOLEY DENNIS, INC. 551 SUNNYBROOK ROAD RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI 39157		
JOB NO.	150550	SCALE: AS SHOWN
		FIGURE 1

UNIFIED SOIL CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

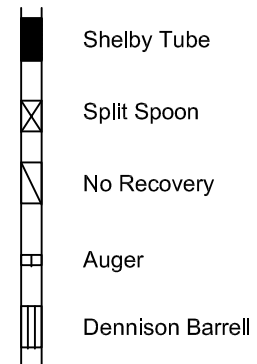
MAJOR DIVISIONS			SYMBOL & LETTER		DESCRIPTION
COARSE-GRAINED SOILS More than half of material larger than No. 200 sieve size	GRAVELS More than half of coarse fraction larger than No.4 sieve size	Clean Gravels (Little or no fines)		GW	WELL GRADED GRAVEL, GRAVEL-SAND MIXTURE
				GP	POORLY GRADED GRAVEL, GRAVEL-SAND MIXTURE
		Gravels with fines (Appreciable amount of fines)		GM	SILTY GRAVEL, GRAVEL-SAND-SILT MIXTURE
				GC	CLAYEY GRAVEL, GRAVEL-SAND-CLAY MIXTURE
	SANDS More than half of coarse fraction smaller than No.4 sieve size	Clean Sands (Little or no fines)		SW	WELL GRADED SAND, GRAVELLY SAND
				SP	POORLY GRADED SAND, GRAVELLY SAND
		Sands with fines (Appreciable amount of fines)		SM	SILTY SAND, SAND-SILT MIXTURE
				SC	CLAYEY SAND, SAND-CLAY MIXTURE
FINE-GRAINED SOILS More than half of material smaller than No. 200 sieve size	SILTS AND CLAYS	Liquid limit less than 50		ML	SILT WITH LITTLE OR NO PLASTICITY
				ML	CLAYEY SILT, SILT WITH SLIGHT TO MEDIUM PLASTICITY
				ML	SANDY SILT
				CL	SILTY CLAY, LOW TO MEDIUM PLASTICITY
				CL	SANDY CLAY, LOW TO MEDIUM PLASTICITY (30% TO 50% SAND)
	SILTS AND CLAYS	Liquid limit greater than 50		MH	SILT, HIGH PLASTICITY
				CH	CLAY, HIGH PLASTICITY
				OH	ORGANIC CLAY OF MEDIUM TO HIGH PLASTICITY
			HIGHLY ORGANIC SOILS		

TERMS CHARACTERIZING SOIL STRUCTURE

Slickensided	- Clays with polished and striated planes created as a result of volume changes related to shrinking, swelling and/or changes in overburden pressure.
Fissured	- Clays with a blocky or jointed structure generally created by seasonal shrinking and swelling.
Laminated	- Composed of thin alternating layers of varying color and texture.
Calcareous	- Containing appreciable quantities of calcium carbonate.
Parting	- Paper thin (less than 1/8 inch).
Seam	- 1/8 inch to 3 inch thickness.
Layer	- Greater than 3 inches in thickness.



SAMPLE TYPES (Shown in Sample Column)



TERMS CHARACTERIZING SOIL STRUCTURE

COARSE-GRAINED SOILS			FINE-GRAINED SOILS	
PENETRATION RESISTANCE, N			PENETRATION COHESION RESISTANCE, N	
DENSITY	Blows per Foot	Consistency	Kips/Sq.Ft	Blows per Foot
Very loose	0 - 4	Very Soft	<0.25	0 - 1
Loose	5 - 10	Soft	0.25 - 0.50	2 - 4
Medium Dense	11 - 30	Medium Stiff	0.50 - 1.00	5 - 8
Dense	31 - 50	Stiff	1.00 - 2.00	9 - 15
Very Dense	>4.00	Very Stiff	2.00 - 4.00	16 - 30
		Hard	>4.00	>30
PARTICLE SIZE IDENTIFICATION			RELATIVE COMPOSITION	
Cobbles	- Greater than 3 inches		Slightly	5 - 15%
Gravel	- Coarse-3/4 inch to 3 inches		With	16 - 29%
	Fine-4.76 mm to 3/4 inch		Sandy	30 - 50%
Sand	- Coarse-2 mm to 4.76 mm		(or gravelly)	
	Medium-0.42 mm to 2 mm			
	Fine-0.074 mm to 0.42 mm			
Silt & Clay	- Less than 0.074 mm			

CLASSIFICATION, SYMBOLS AND
TERMS USED ON GRAPHICAL
BORING LOGS

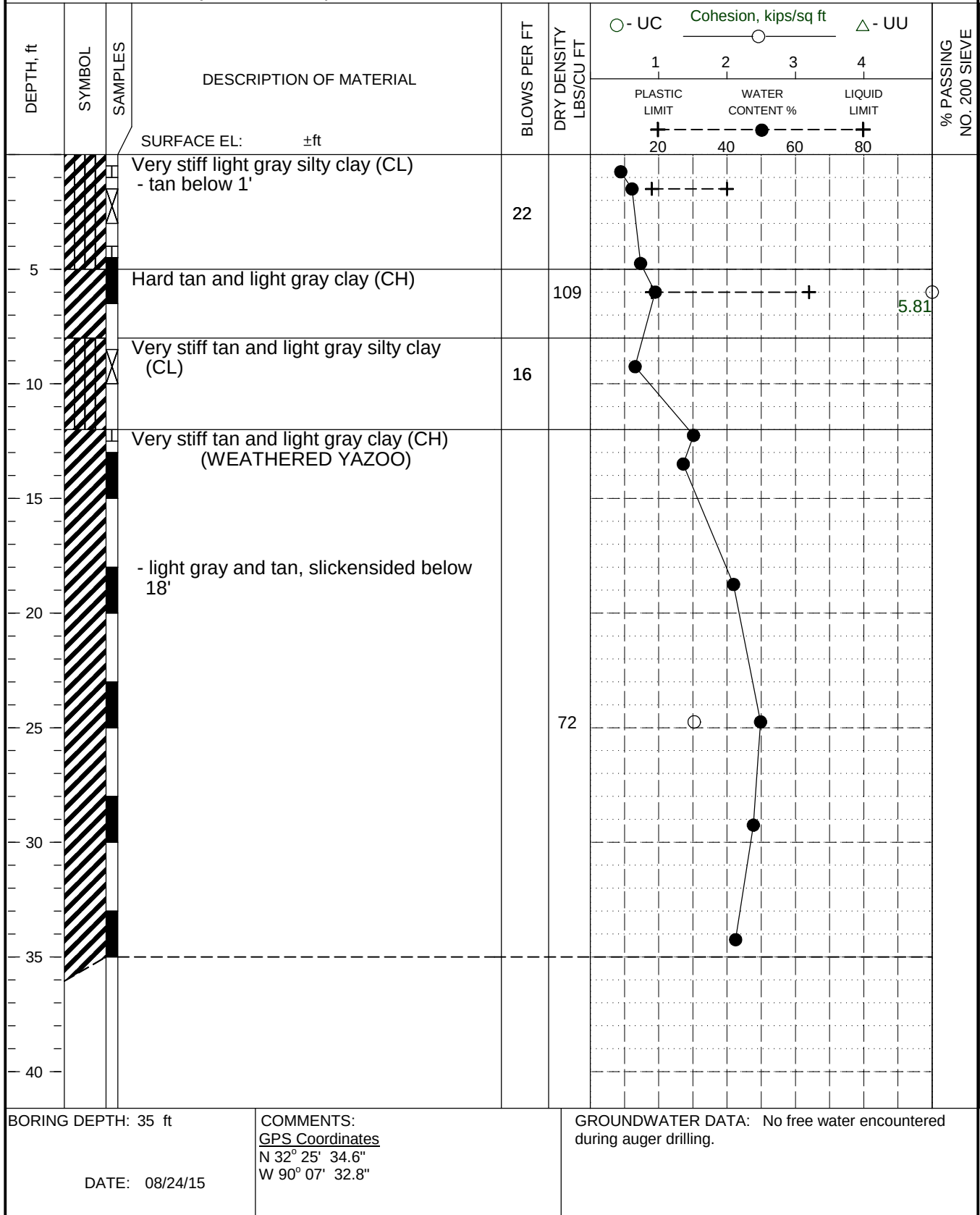
LOG OF BORING NO. 1

NATCHEZ TRACE VISITOR CENTER

RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI

TYPE: 6" Short-flight auger to 15',
then rotary wash to completion.

LOCATION: See Figure 1



150550 9/4/2015 9:35:44 AM

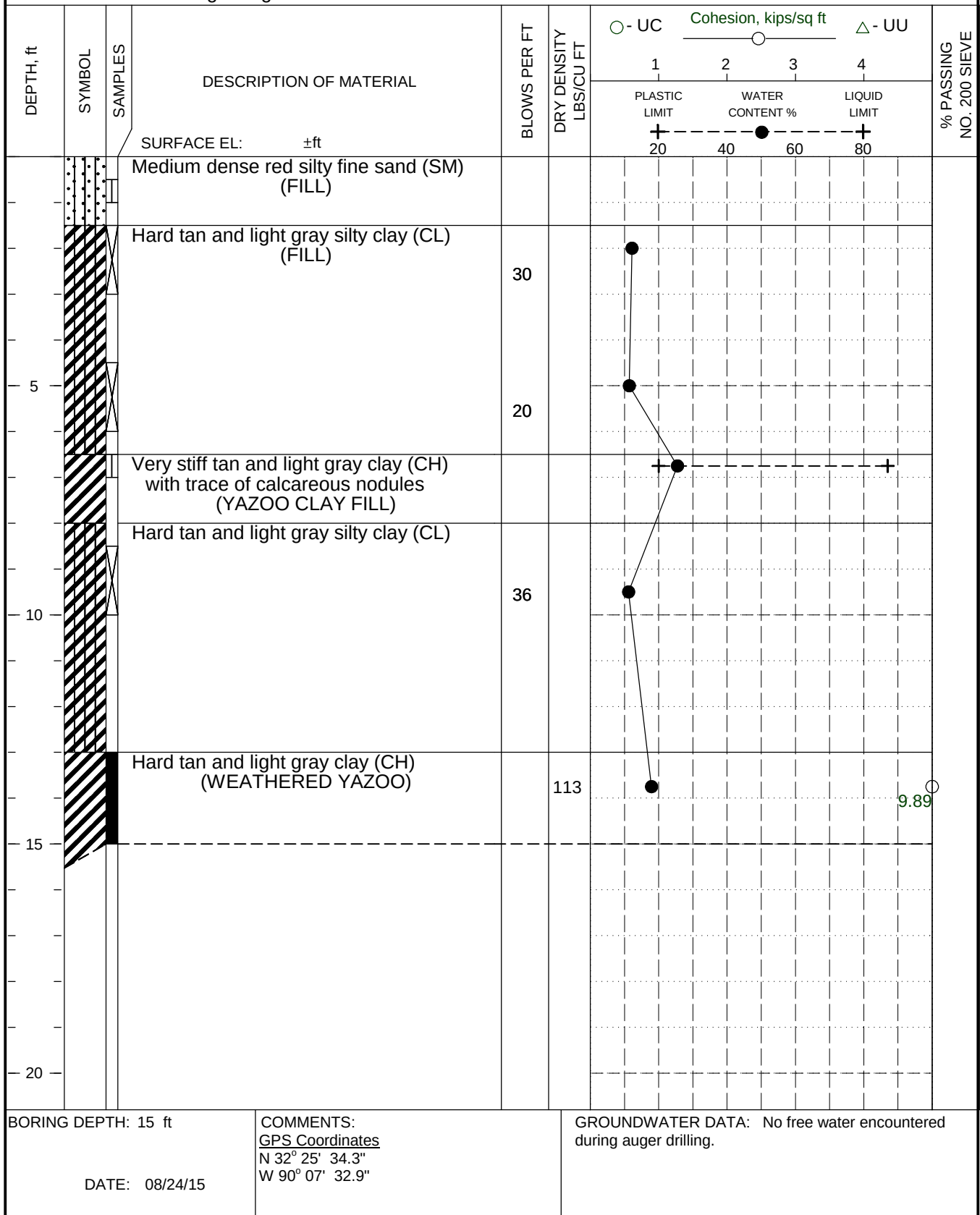
LOG OF BORING NO. 2

NATCHEZ TRACE VISITOR CENTER

RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI

TYPE: 6" Short-flight auger

LOCATION: See Figure 1



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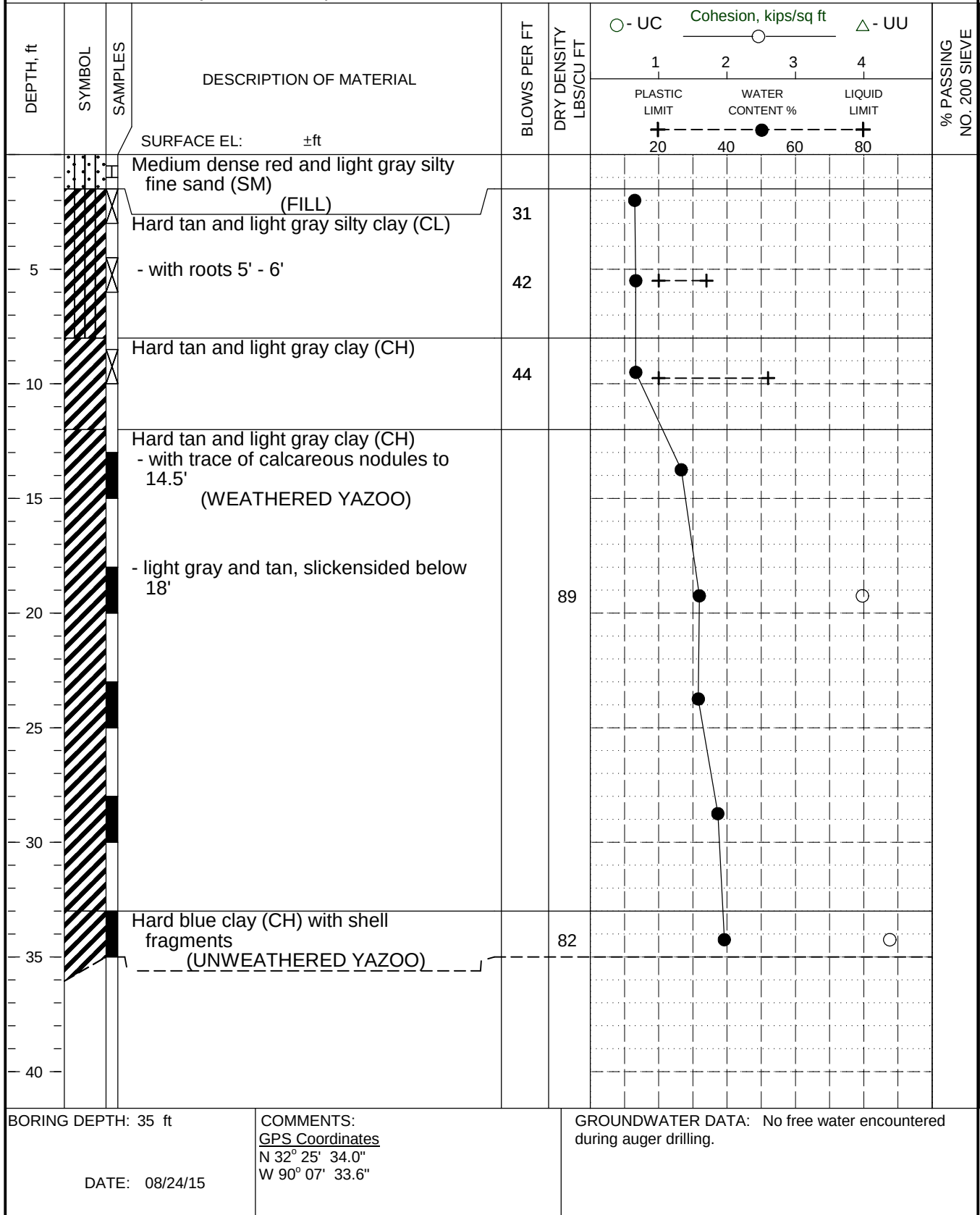
LOG OF BORING NO. 3

NATCHEZ TRACE VISITOR CENTER

RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI

TYPE: 6" Short-flight auger to 10',
then rotary wash to completion.

LOCATION: See Figure 1



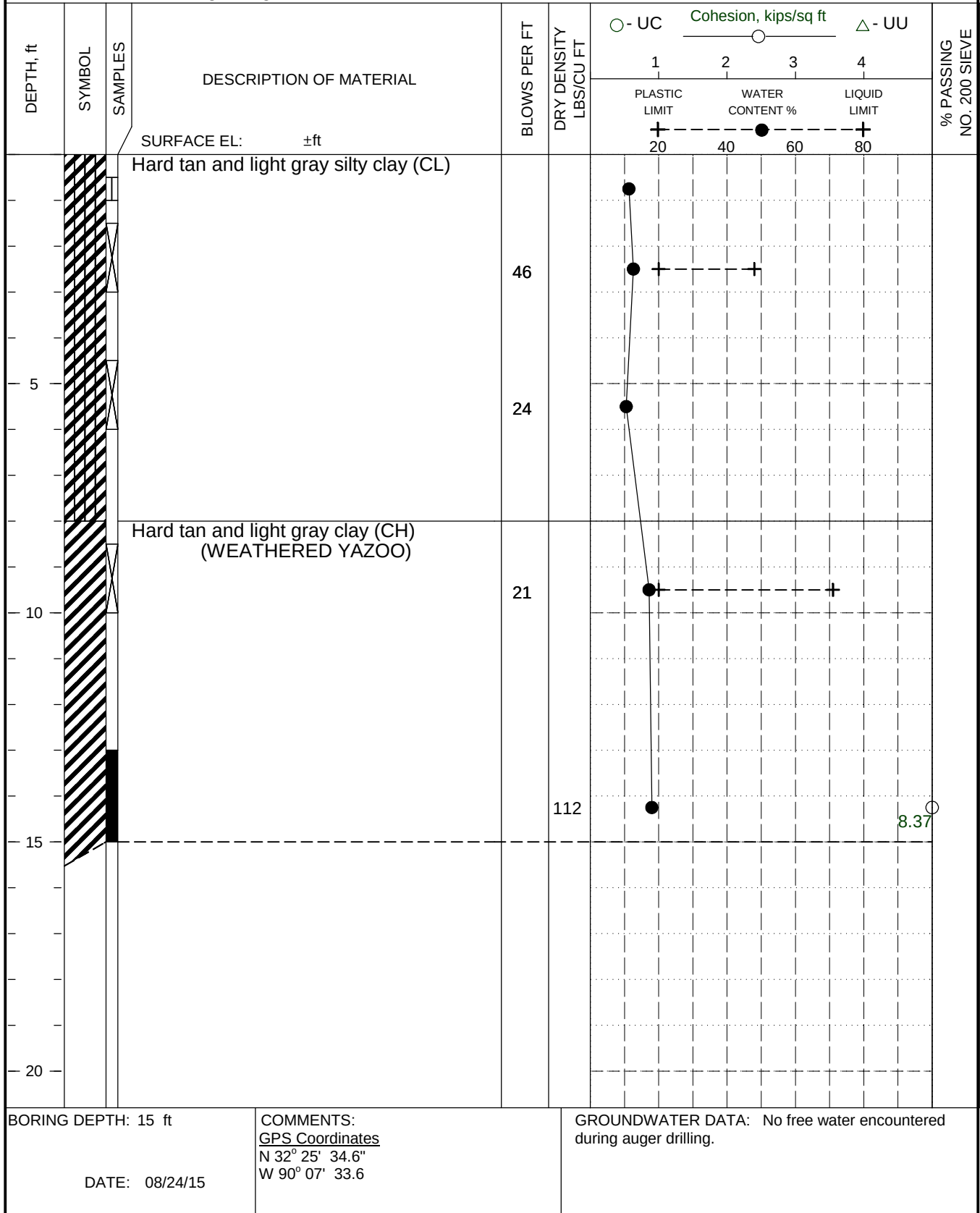
LOG OF BORING NO. 4

NATCHEZ TRACE VISITOR CENTER

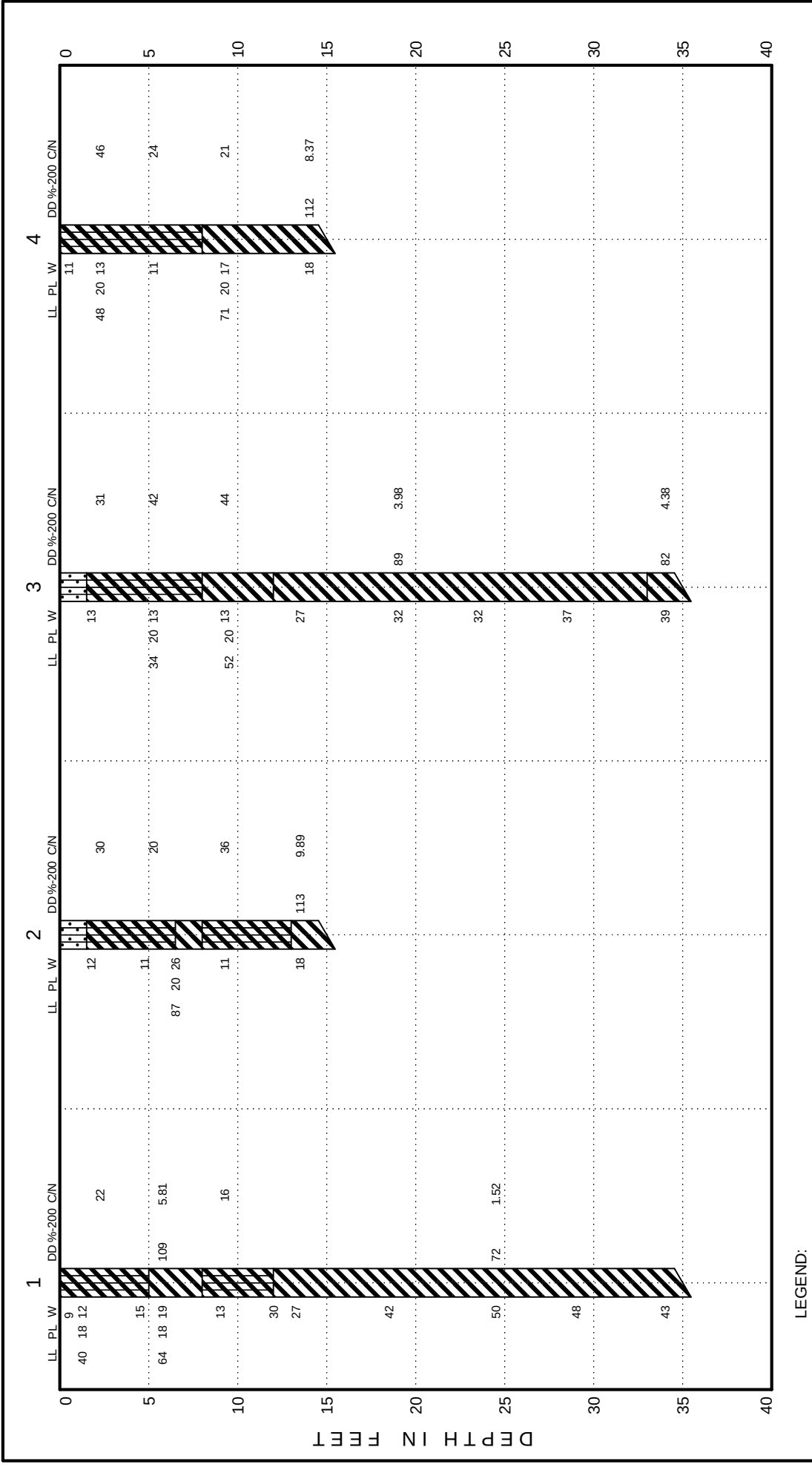
RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI

TYPE: 6" Short-flight auger

LOCATION: See Figure 1



150550 9/4/2015 9:35:47 AM



LEGEND:

- LL = Liquid Limit
- PL = Plastic Limit
- W = Water Content
- DD = Dry Density (pcf)
- C/N = Cohesion (ksf)/Penetration Resistance, N (blows/ft) in the same column
- MS = Matric Suction (tsf)
- %-200 = % Passing No. 200 Sieve

NOTE: See Figure 2 for boring log legend.

SUBSURFACE SOIL PROFILE

NATCHEZ TRACE VISITOR CENTER
RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI

Job No.
150550

Date
9/4/15

Figure
7

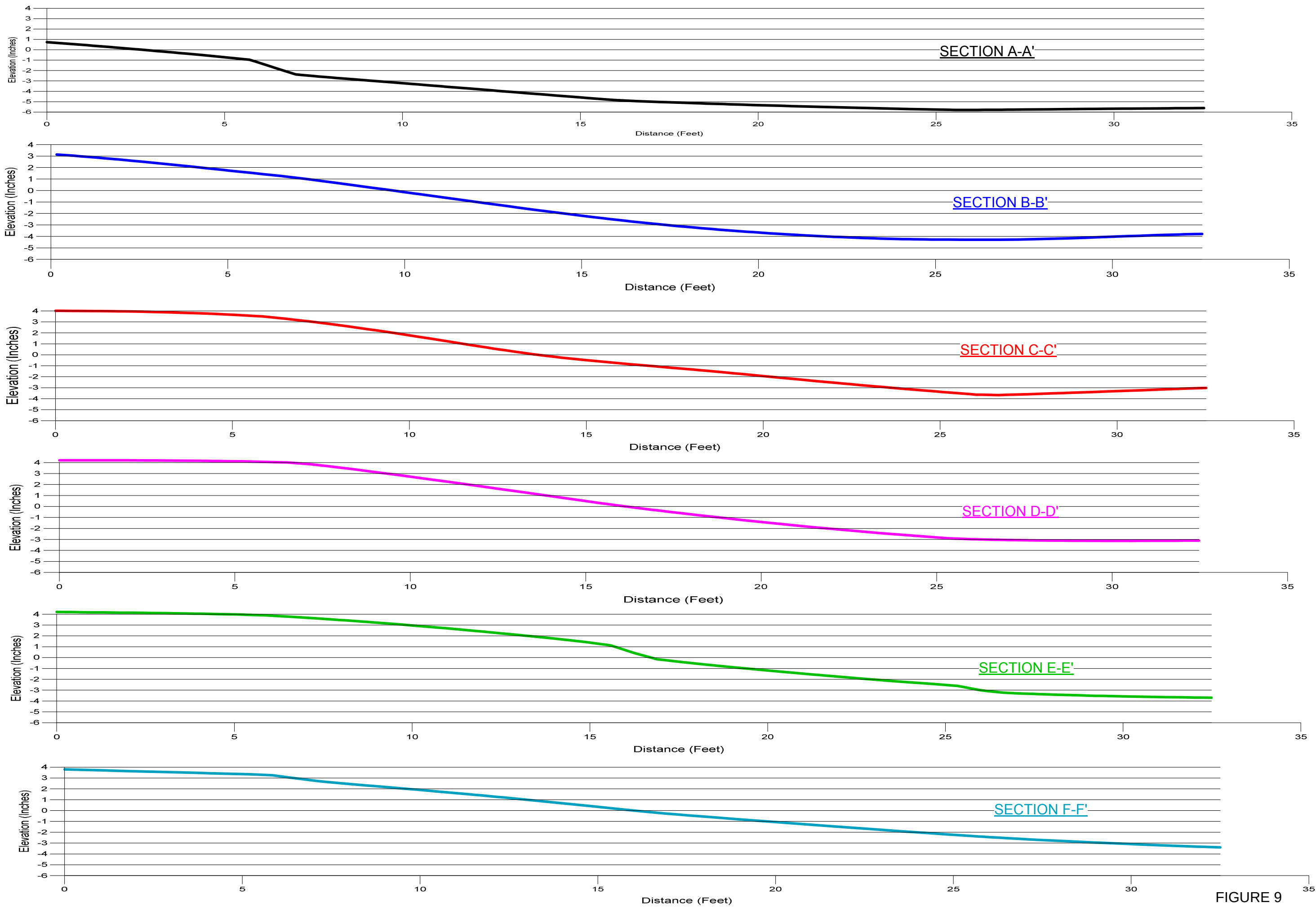


FIGURE 9

Appendix D

Background documents provided by NPS, 2019

Appendix D Index

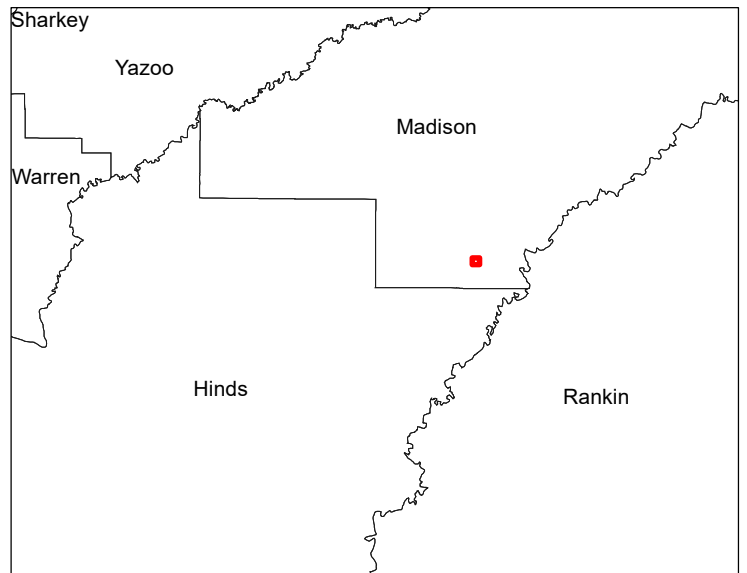
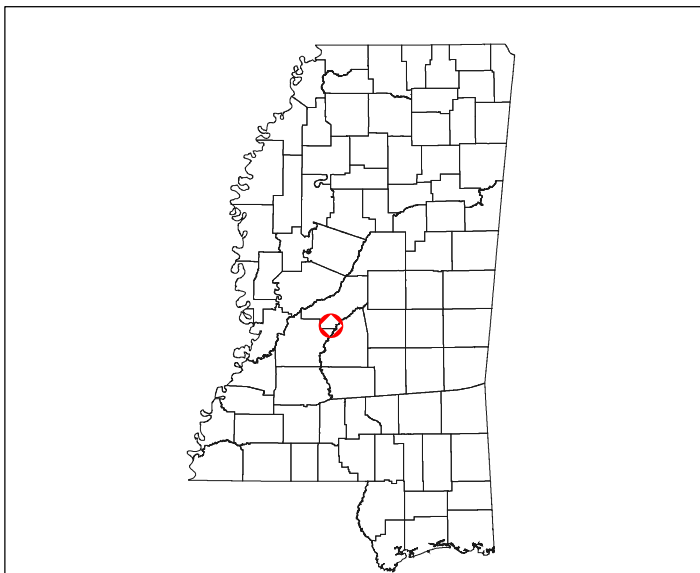
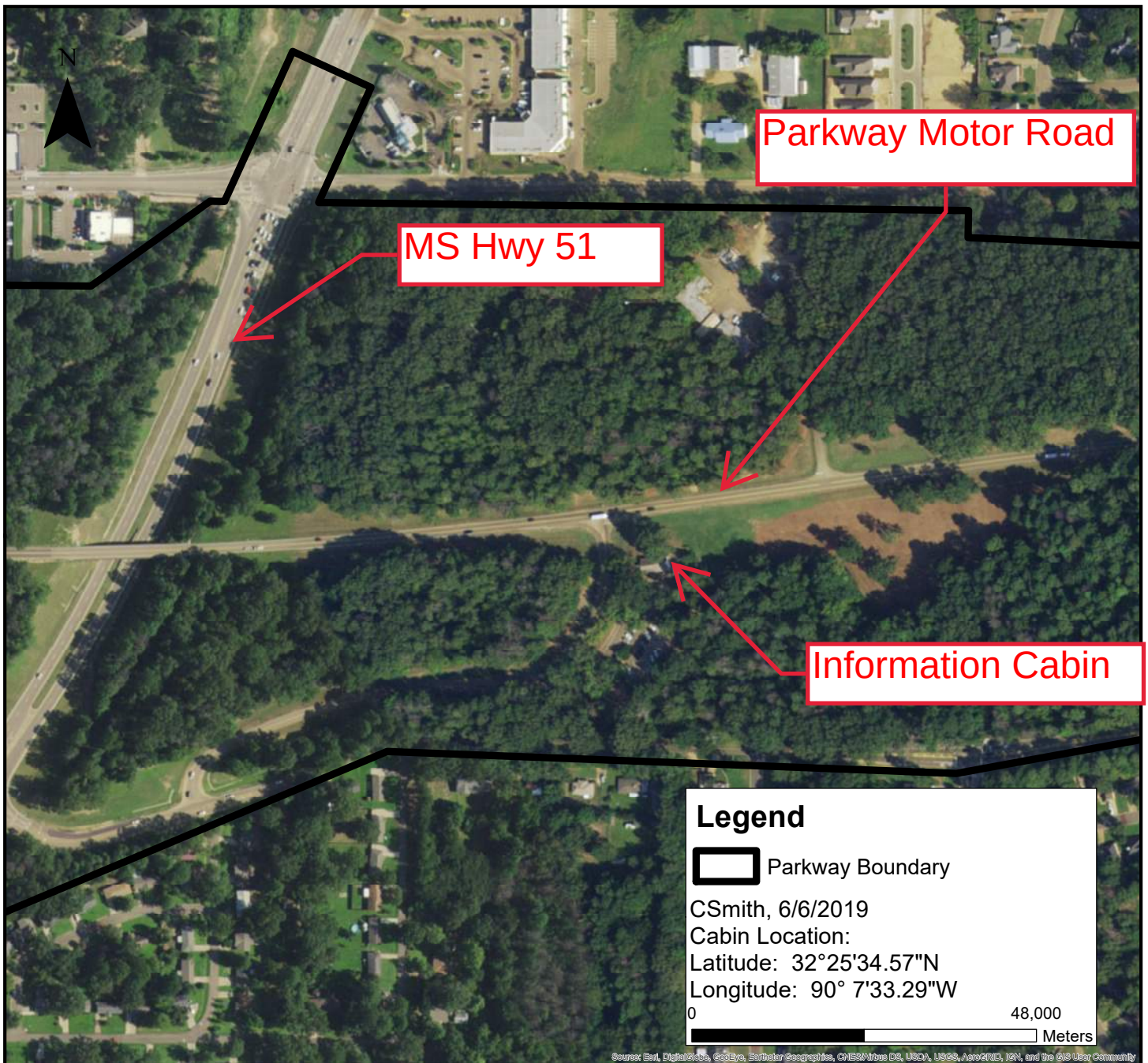
- Chronology
- Location Map, C. Smith 6/6/2019
- Form 10-768, Supplement on Secondary Visitor Center, Ridgeland Headquarters, NATR, 6/1/1959 (Source: Structure Report Records Collection, Box 3, Folder 113, Natchez Trace Parkway Archives, Tupelo, MS.)
- Information Station, Sketch with building dimensions, Undated, 2 pages
- Ridgeland Orientation Center-Preliminary Architectural Drawing, Robert E. Smith, Architect, Sheet 1 of 1, 5/13/50
- South Elevation/ Foundation Plan, Sheet 1 of 3, May 12, 1940
- North Elevation/West Elevation/ Floor Plan, Sheet 2 of 3, May 12, 1940
- Section / Elevation of Door / Details, Sheet 3 of 3, May 12, 1950
- Natchez Trace Parkway, Site Drawing, Scale 1" = 200', Section 3-P, Sheet 32 of 32, Undated
- Black and white photograph of cabin from Parkway, Interpretive Photographic Collection, No Catalog Number, Natchez Trace Parkway Archives, Tupelo, MS. No Date.
- Color image of cabin from Parkway, Street view Google Earth image, 2019
- USGS location map, Madison, WGS84 Quadrangle, C Smith 6/6/2019
- Color image of Exhibit Room Interior, 2019
- Black and white historic image, Interpretive Photographic Collection, Number 9264, Natchez Trace Parkway Archives, Tupelo, MS. No Date.
- Black and white historic image, Interpretive Photographic Collection, Number 9840, Natchez Trace Parkway Archives, Tupelo, MS. No Date.
- Letter, Jim Woodrick to Gordon Wilson, May 25, 2009. Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Historic Preservation Division Survey Files, Ridgeland Visitor Contact Center (Natchez Trace Parkway), Ridgeland, Madison County, 089-RDG-8006.
- Letter, Gordon Wilson to H.T. Holmes, March 6, 2009. Citation: Natchez Trace Parkway Central Files, Tupelo, MS.
 - o Excerpt from 2009 sidewalk reroute proposal. Citation: Natchez Trace Parkway Central Files, Tupelo, MS.
 - o Photo 1. Taken in either 1950 or 1951. Citation: Interpretive Photographic Collection, Number 9487, Natchez Trace Parkway Archives, Tupelo, MS. 1950 or 1951.
 - o Photo 2. Taken in 1951. Citation: Interpretive Photographic Collection, Number 8697, Natchez Trace Parkway Archives, Tupelo, MS. 1951.
 - o Photo 3. Taken in 1951. Citation: Interpretive Photographic Collection, Number 9694, Natchez Trace Parkway Archives, Tupelo, MS. 1951.
 - o Photo 4. 1951 dedication. Citation: Interpretive Photographic Collection, Number 9266, Natchez Trace Parkway Archives, Tupelo, MS. 1951.
 - o Photo 5. No date, View from Parkway motor road. Citation: Interpretive Photographic Collection, Number 8692, Natchez Trace Parkway Archives, Tupelo, MS. No Date.

- o Photo 6. Taken in 1959. Citation: Interpretive Photographic Collection, No Catalog Number, Natchez Trace Parkway Archives, Tupelo, MS. 1959.
- o Photo 7. Brick sidewalk. Excerpt from 2009 sidewalk reroute proposal. Citation: Natchez Trace Parkway Central Files, Tupelo, MS.
- o Photo 8. Brick sidewalk detail. Excerpt from 2009 sidewalk reroute proposal. Citation: Natchez Trace Parkway Central Files, Tupelo, MS.
- o Photo 9. South entrance. Excerpt from 2009 sidewalk reroute proposal. Citation: Natchez Trace Parkway Central Files, Tupelo, MS.
- o Photo 10. View of northeast corner. Excerpt from 2009 sidewalk reroute proposal. Citation: Natchez Trace Parkway Central Files, Tupelo, MS.
- o Photo 11. View of sidewalk and existing handicap entrance. Excerpt from 2009 sidewalk reroute proposal. Citation: Natchez Trace Parkway Central Files, Tupelo, MS.
- o Photo 12. Another view of southern elevation. Excerpt from 2009 sidewalk reroute proposal. Citation: Natchez Trace Parkway Central Files, Tupelo, MS.
- o Photo 13. Breezeway area, view of bathroom entrance. Excerpt from 2009 sidewalk reroute proposal. Citation: Natchez Trace Parkway Central Files, Tupelo, MS.

- Design began in 1940
- Dedicated and formally opened to the public in November 1951
- The cabin was intermittently manned by NPS staff
- In 1975, the NPS issued a concession prospectus for operation of the cabin as a crafts center. On June 14th, it was officially opened and operated by the Craftsman's Guild of Mississippi. It was open 7 days a week and known as the Mississippi Crafts Center.
- Mississippi Craft Center relocated in July 2007 to a new facility outside NATR's boundary. The cabin was vacant until 2009.
- In 2009, NATR added a route to the exiting sidewalk to make the building accessible. The existing brick path was removed, fill/grading was conducted to bring the ground level back to the 1951 grade. The paths were rebuilt in their original locations using original bricks. Handrails were added. The wood floors were refinished. A storage closet was converted to a men's restroom. The original men's restroom was converted into an accessible family restroom. The restroom interiors were gutted and new tile/fixtures installed. Electrical wiring was updated and HVAC installed.
- The NATR Interpretive Division began staffing the cabin in August 2009 with a grand opening on September 12, 2009.
- December 2018, NATR staff met on site to discuss future rehabilitation work and cultural resource concerns.

Ridgeland Information Cabin

Natchez Trace Parkway



NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY

Building Name Secondary Visitor Center Location Ridgeland Hdqtrs. No. 1131. Used As InterpretationOwned By GovernmentOperated By National Park ServiceMaintained By National Park ServiceConstructed By L. A. Harvey
Jackson, Mississippi2. Year Built 1951 Remodeled --3. Drawing No. PKY/NT 2487 C Occupancy Perm.4. Original Cost \$36,328Present Value \$52,7975. No. Stories One No. Rooms 56. Cu.Ft. 14,679 Sq.Ft. Basement --Sq.Ft. 1st Floor 1,0727. Construction Type Concrete Foundations
Log Type ConstructionWalls, Exterior 6" x 12" Timbers - AdzedWalls, Interior MasonryFloors Concrete Roof Wood Shakes8. Interior Finish, Walls Wood, Tile,
& PlasterFloors Wood, Tile, & ConcreteCeiling Wood and Plaster9. Utilities, Water X Electric XSewer X Phone --

10. Mechanical Equipment:

3 Lavatories; 1 urinal;
Sanitary 3 Water ClosetsHeating Elec. Heaters Fuel Electric
DrinkingElectric Fountains & H.W. --

Air Conditioning Unit

11. Existing Condition of Building:

Structural ExcellentMechanical Excellent

12. Fire Protection:

Hydrant Size 6" Distance 50'
2 1/2" Outlet

Extinguishing Apparatus

One 1 qt. carbon tet. extinguisher
Two 2 1/2 gallon stirrup pumps.

REMARKS:

Item 4, Original Cost: Building - \$30,000
Exhibit Panels - 6,328
\$36,328

Present Value: Estimated replacement value as 45.335% increase, based on
Engineering News Record "Cost Indices", March 19, 1959 issue.

John H. Saxon, Parkway Engineer

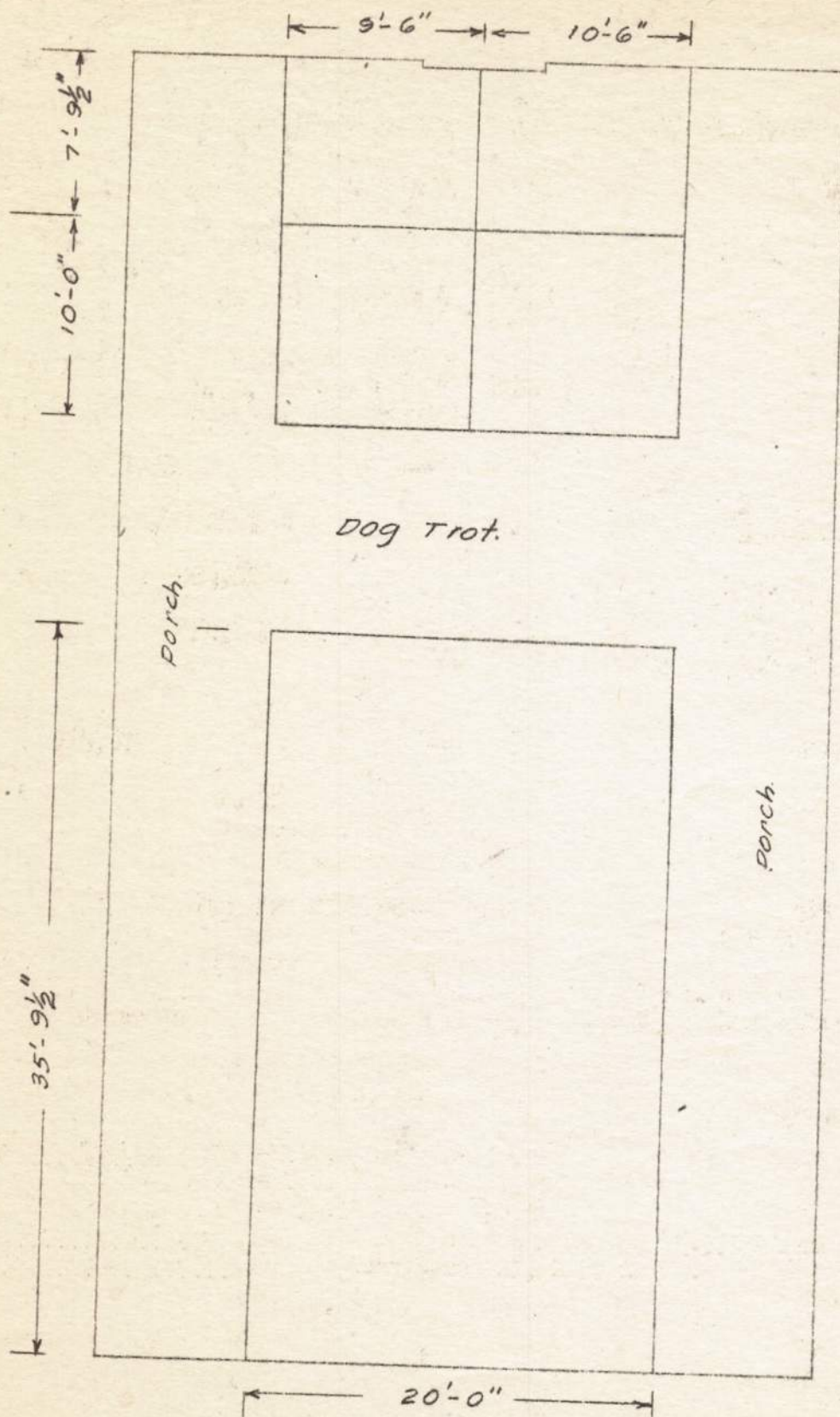
Prepared by

June 1, 1959

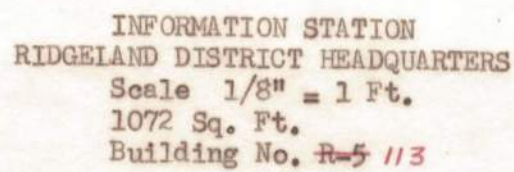
Date

Malcolm Gardner, Superintendent

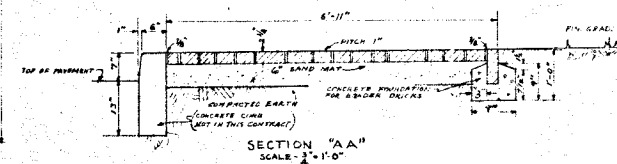
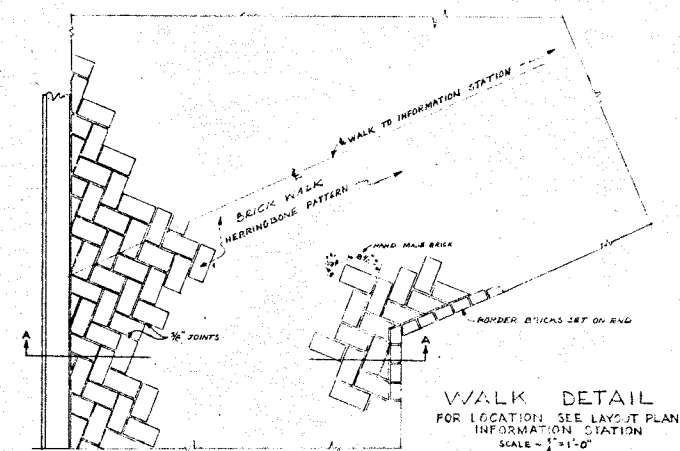
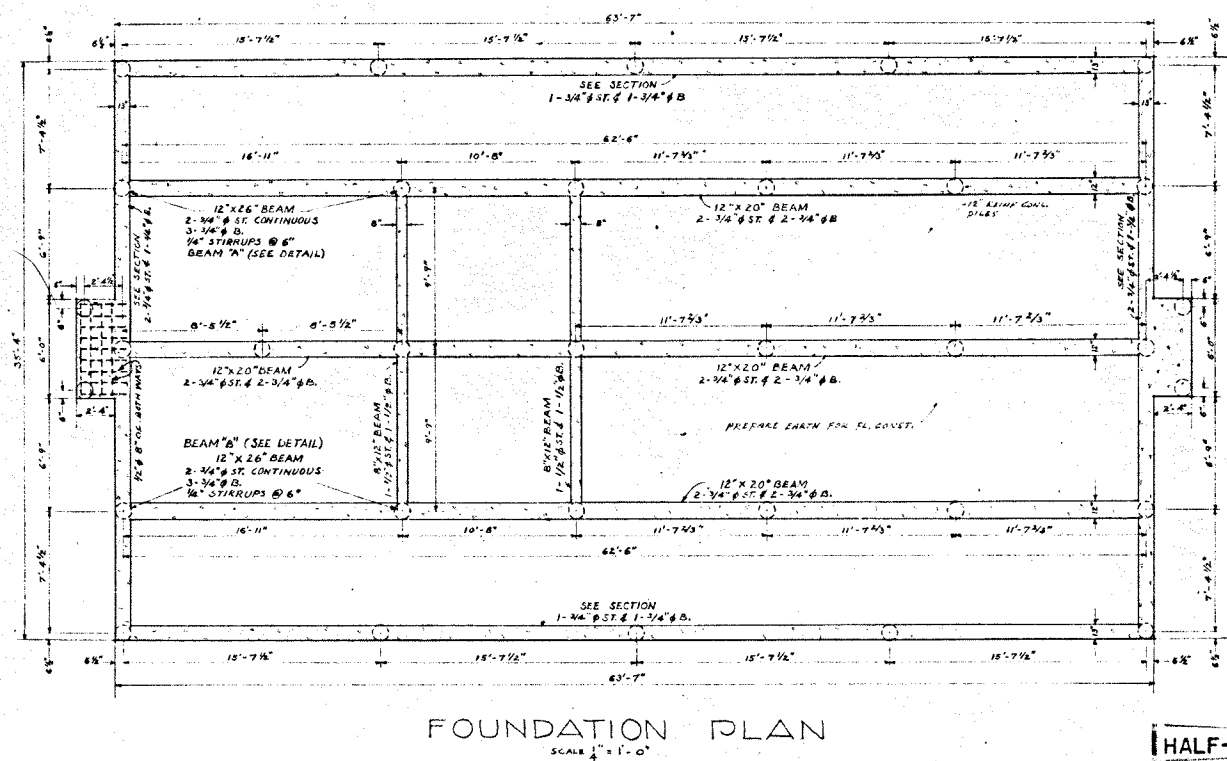
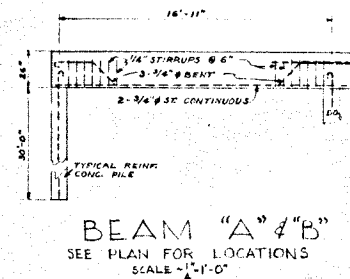
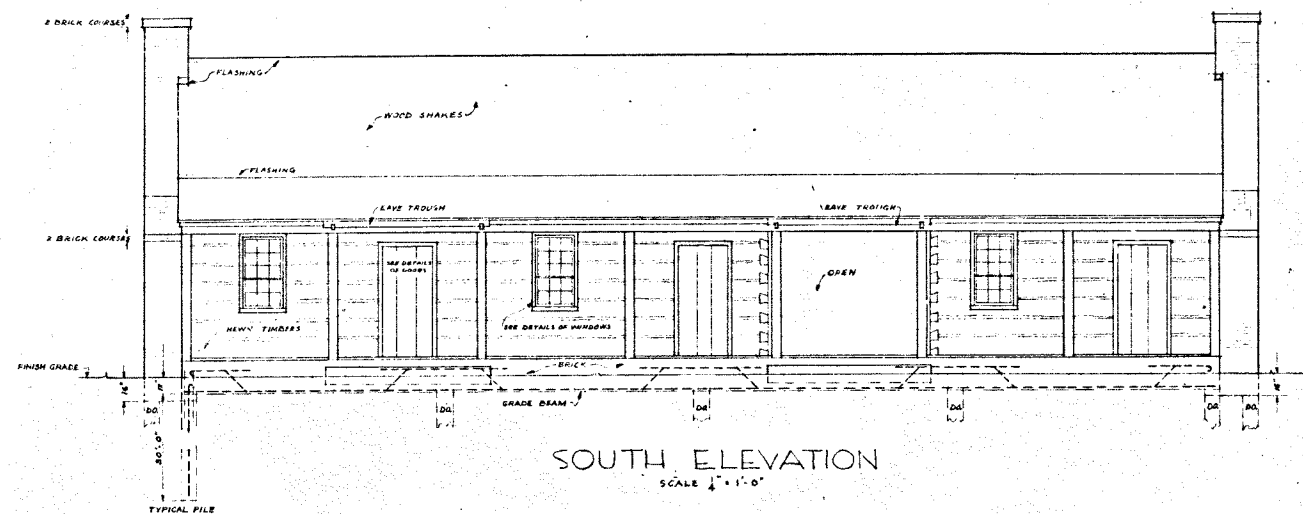
Approved



INFORMATION STATION
 RIDGE LAND DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS
 Scale 1/8" = 1 Ft.
 1072 Sq. Ft.
 Building No. R-5 113

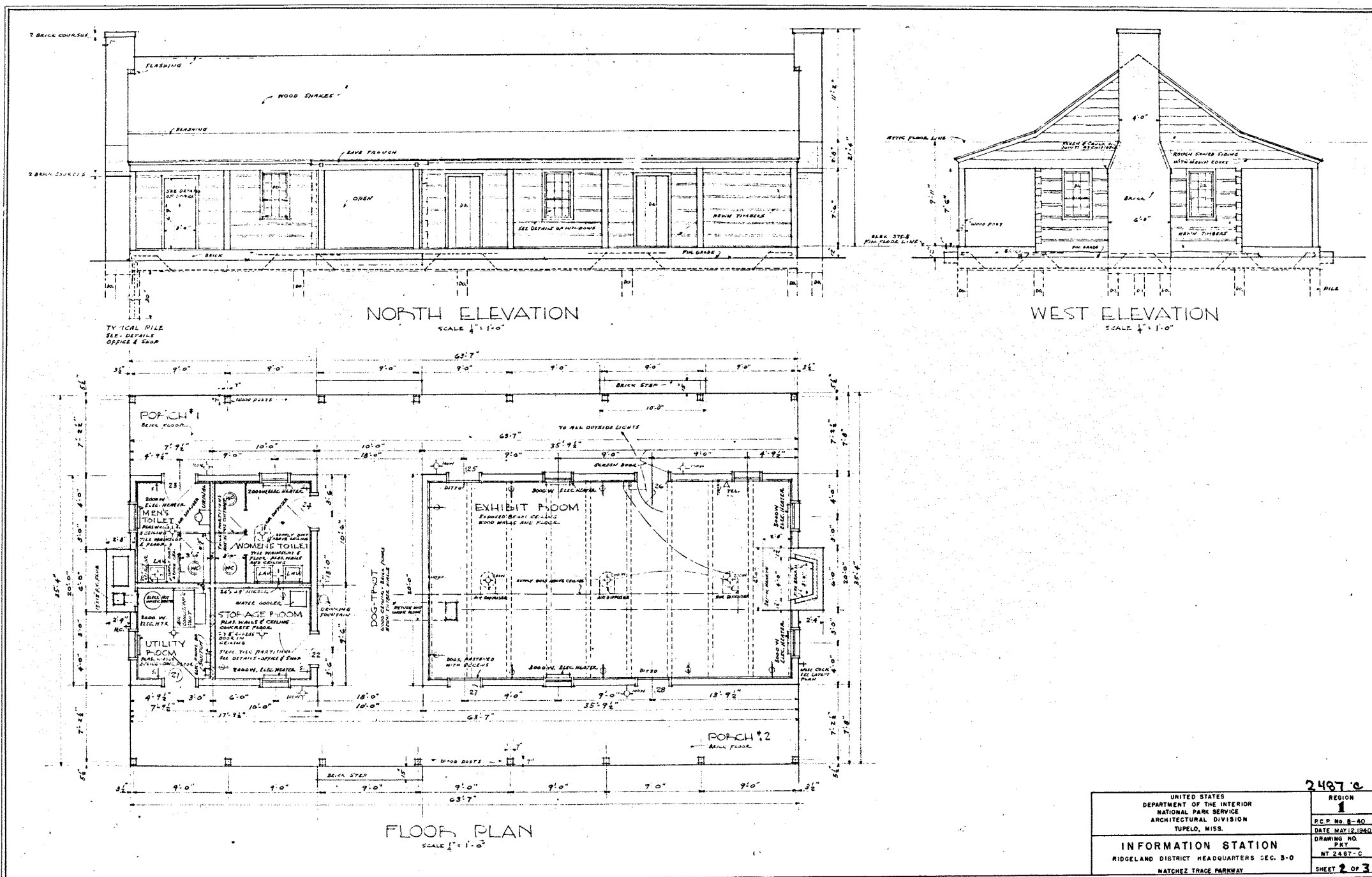


Building No. ~~R-5~~ 113

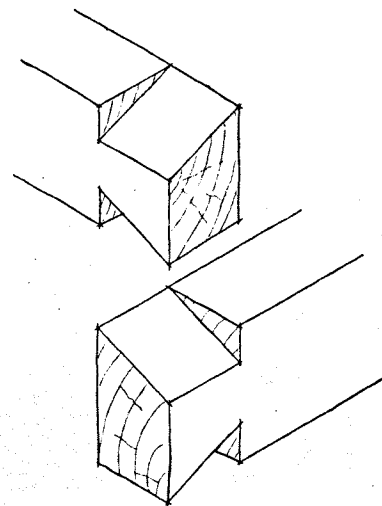


HALF-SIZE REPRODUCTION

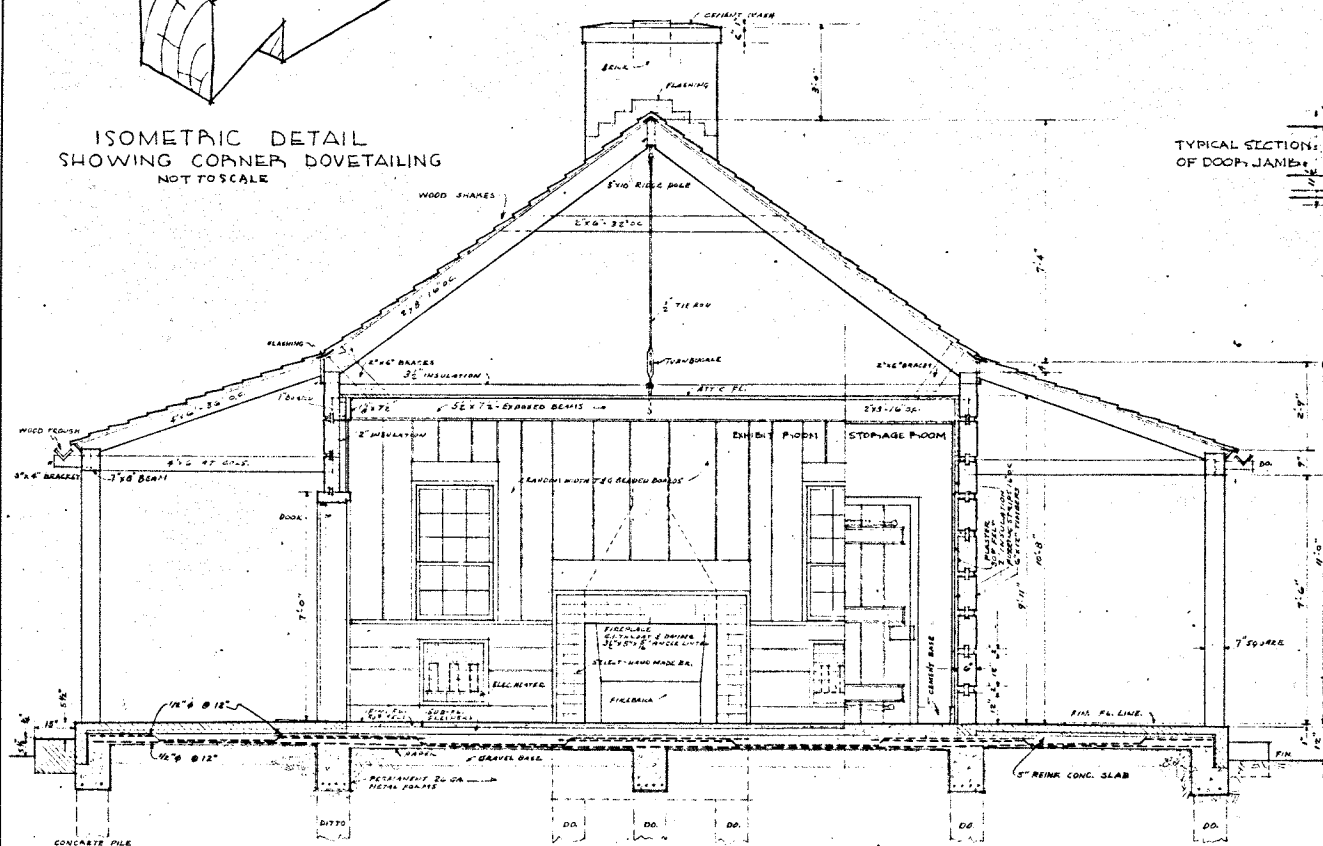
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE ARCHITECTURAL DIVISION TUPELO, MISS.		2487-C
INFORMATION STATION RIDGELAND DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS SEC. 3-O NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY		REGION 1
		D.C.P. No. B-40 DATE MAY 12, 1940
		DRAWING NO. N-487-C
		SHEET 1 OF 3



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE ARCHITECTURAL DIVISION TUPELO, MISS.	
INFORMATION STATION RIDGELAND DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS SEC. 3-0 NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY	
REGION 1 R.C.P. No. 8-40 DATE MAY 12, 1940 DRAWING NO. 247 NT 2487-C SHEET 2 OF 3	2487-C

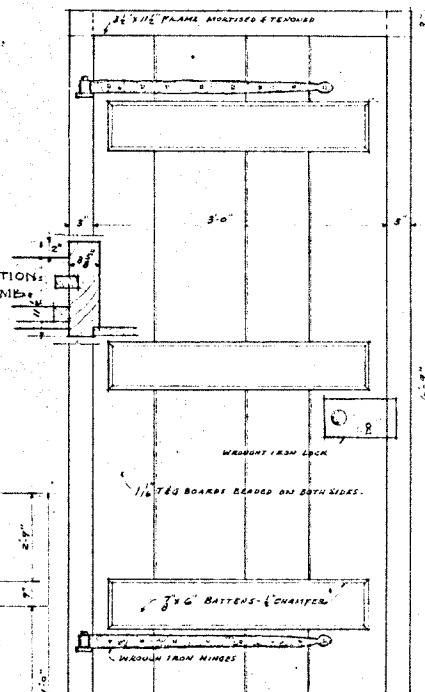


ISOMETRIC DETAIL
SHOWING CORNER DOVETAILING
NOT TO SCALE



SECTION
SCALE 1/4"=1'-0"

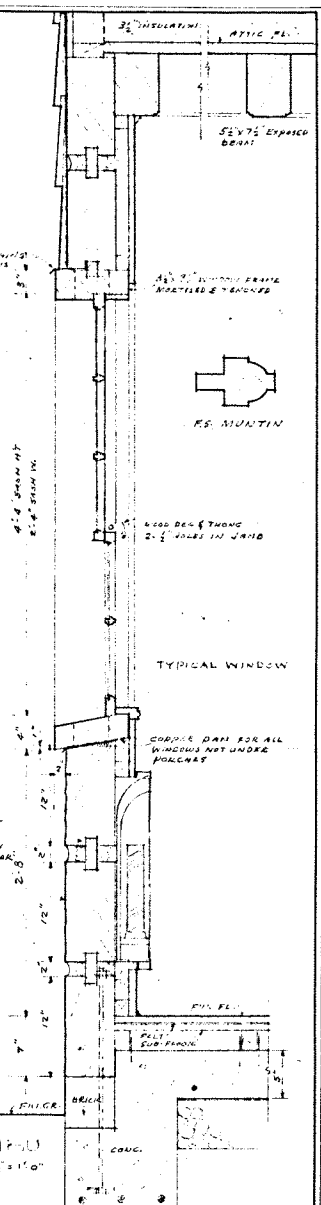
TYPICAL SECTION
OF DOOR JAMB



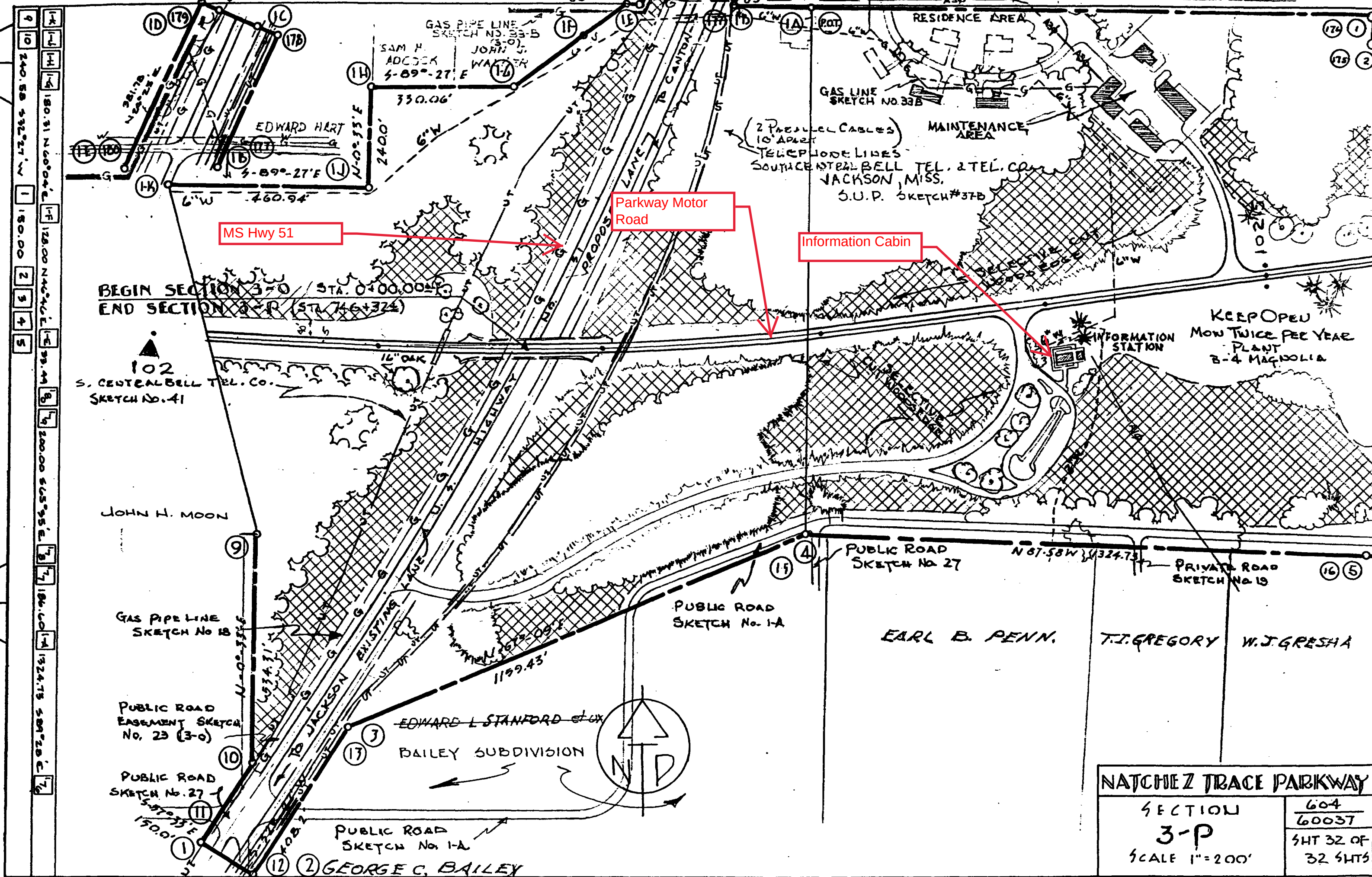
ELEVATION OF DOOR
12'-1'-0"

NOTE:
VERTICAL BAR SET
IN MASTIC
JOINTS FILLED WITH
BEST LATH & PLASTER
5/16\"/>

SECTION THRU
END WALL 12'-1'-0"



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE ARCHITECTURAL DIVISION TUPELO, MISS.		2487-C
INFORMATION STATION RIDGELAND DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS SEC. 3-0 NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY		REGION 1 PCP No B-40 DATE MAY 12, 1950 DRAWING NO. NT 2487-C SHEET 3 OF 3

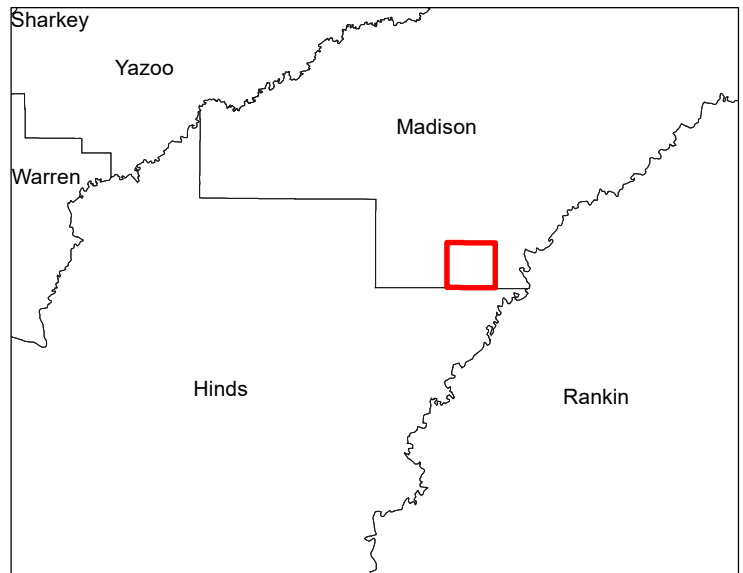
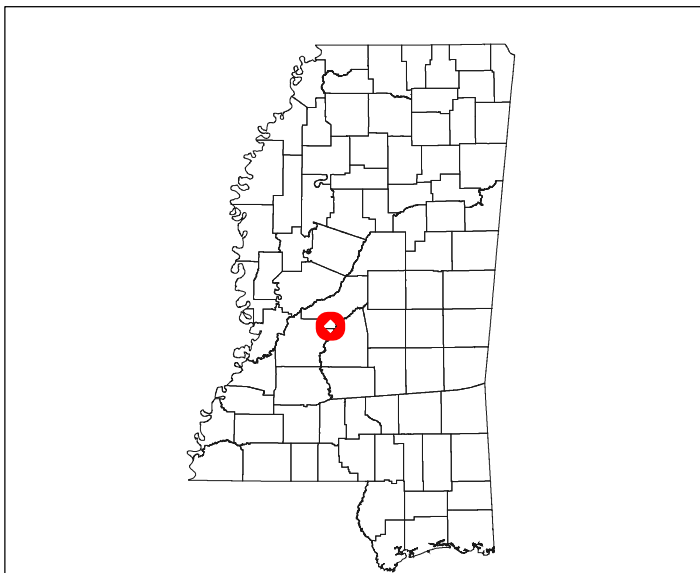
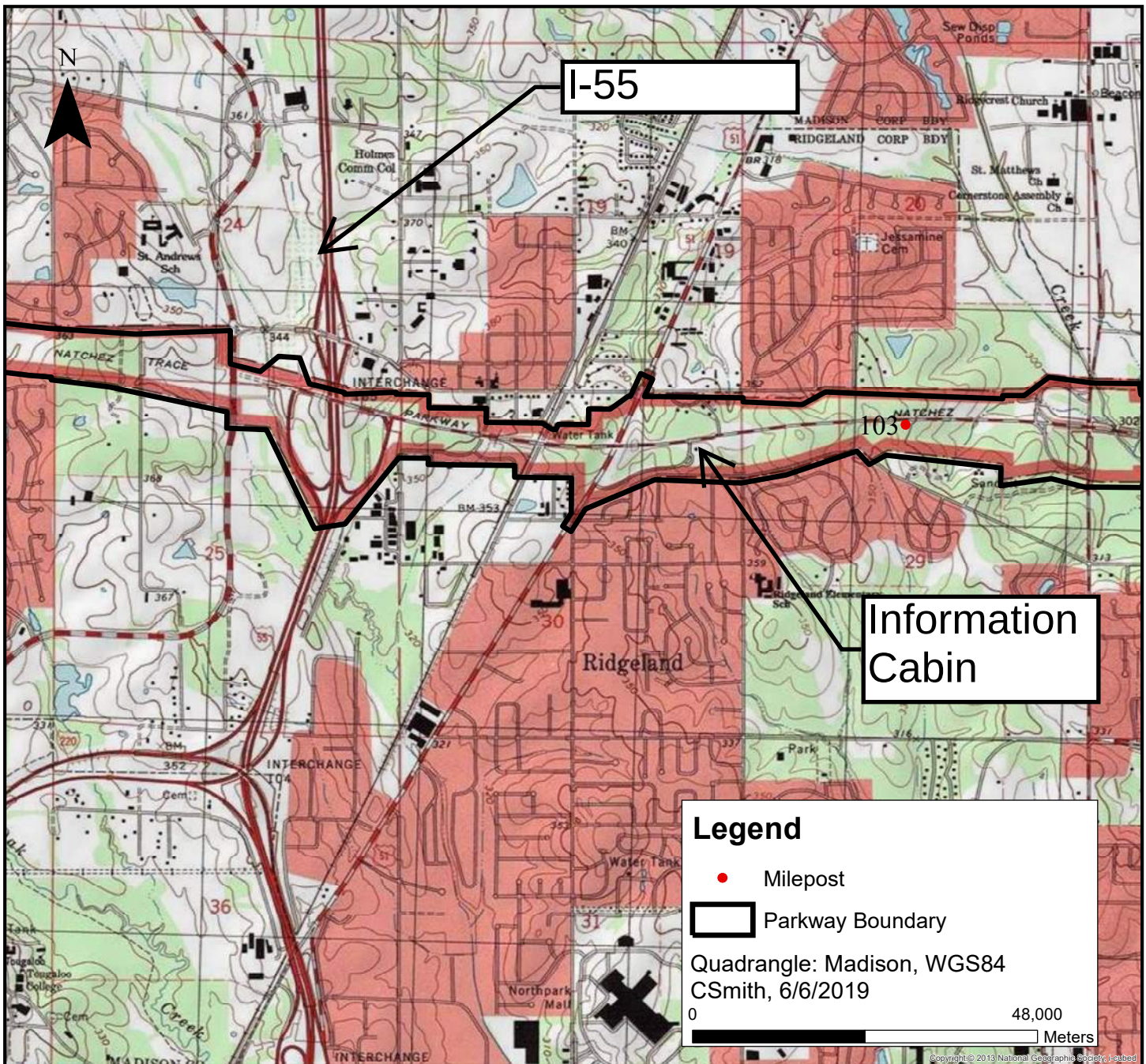


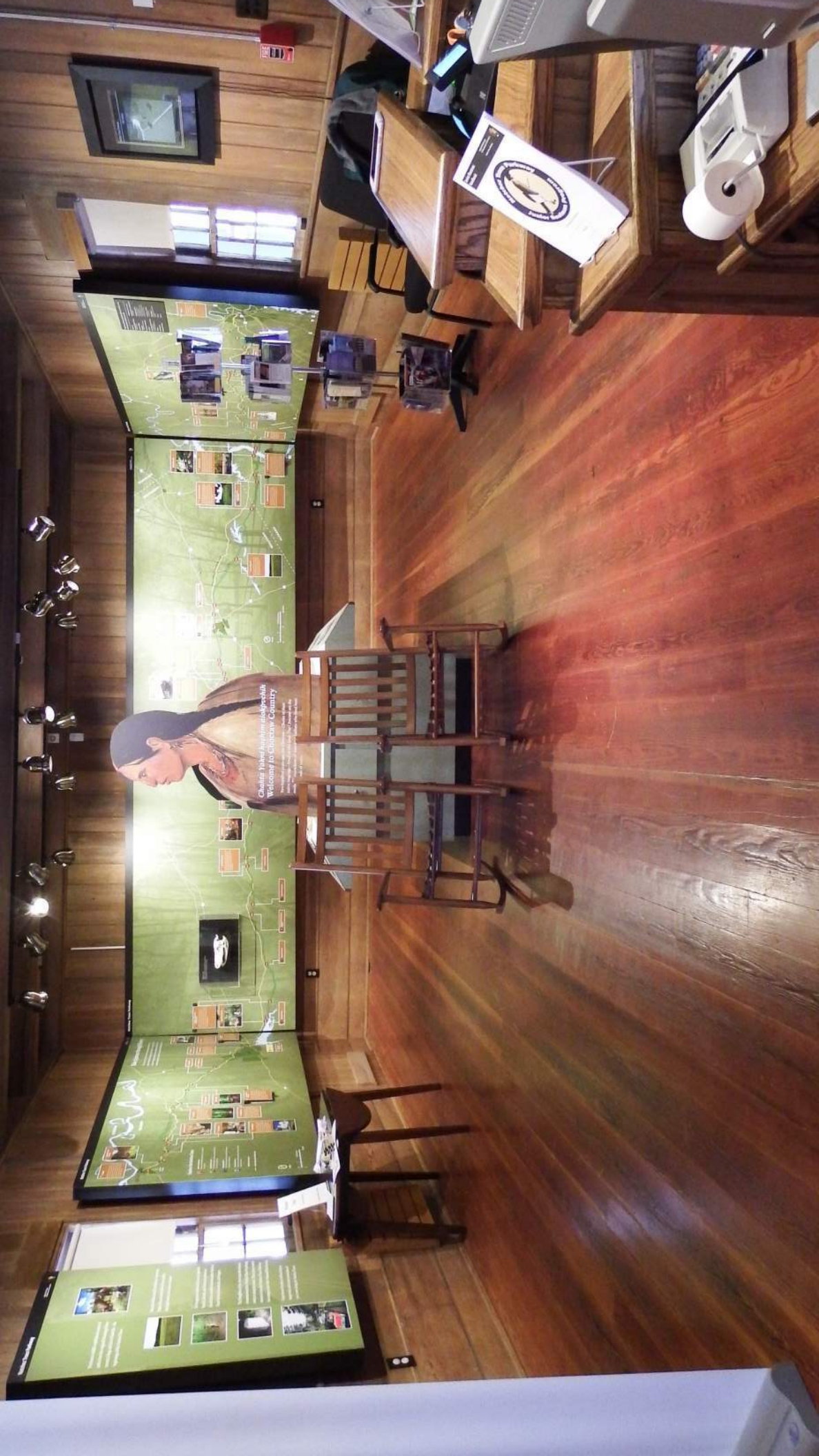




Ridgeland Information Cabin

Natchez Trace Parkway





Subject:
Location:
Description:

Ridgeland
Section 3-0
Ridgeland Museum and Visitors

No. 9264

Date:

By:

250



Wm. J. Smith
June 28
1935

PARK

Natchez Trace Parkway

SUBJECT

Ridgeland Museum - Visitors

LOCATION

PHOTOGRAPHER & COMPANIONS

DATE TAKEN

REMARKS

CLASSIFICATION NO

250

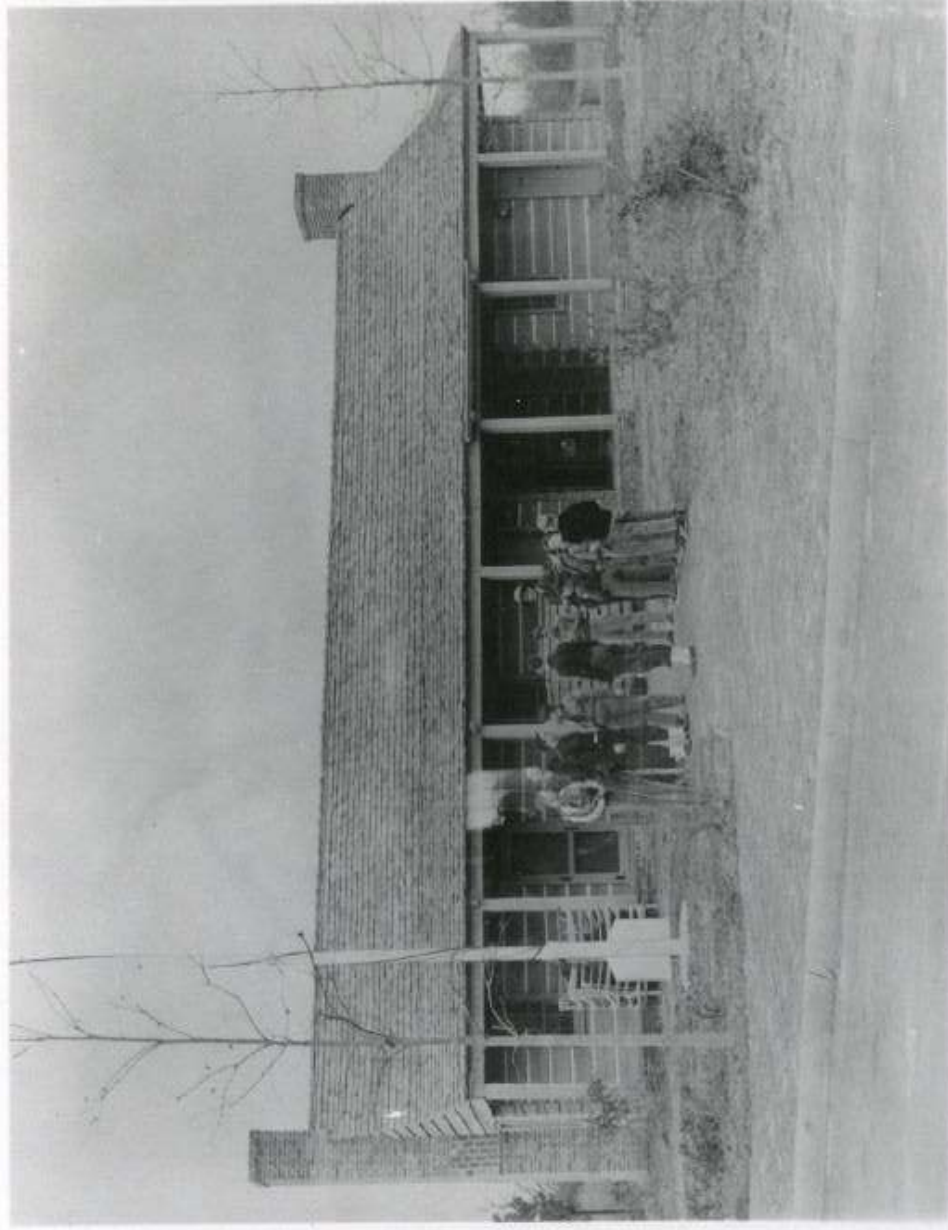
OTHER

NEGATIVE NO.

9840

NATIONAL ARCHIVES NO.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS NO.



Ken P'Pool, director • Jim Woodrick, acting director
PO Box 571, Jackson, MS 39205-0571
601-576-6940 • Fax 601-576-6955
mdah.state.ms.us

Mr. Gordon A. Wilson
Acting Superintendent
Natchez Trace Parkway
2680 Natchez Trace Parkway
Tupelo, Mississippi 38804

Dear Superintendent Wilson:

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Jim Woodrick
Review and Compliance Officer

c: Clearinghouse for Federal Programs

[illegible]

H20(NATR)xL30-3P, D30-3P
xH30, K-18, D34

March 6, 2009

Mr. H. T. Holmes
State of Mississippi Historic Preservation Office
100 South State Street
Jackson, MS 39205

Dear Mr. Holmes,

The Natchez Trace Parkway proposes to rehabilitate the Ridgeland visitor contact station and reopen it to the public. The building was designed in 1940 and constructed in 1951. The facility previously operated as the Mississippi Crafts Center and has been vacant since July 2007. We believe the building is a contributing structure in the history of the Parkway's development; therefore, we are requesting that you provide a review of our renovation plans.

The sidewalk contributes to the building's character and to the cultural landscape. In order to provide an appropriate accessible path to the building, we propose to add a route to the existing sidewalk as shown on the schematic drawing (Enclosure 1). The area adjacent to the porch will be filled to bring the ground level back to the 1951 grade (Enclosure 2, Photograph 2). The existing brick paths will have to be removed during the fill and grading work. Except for the area where the accessible route will be placed, the paths will be rebuilt in their original locations using the original bricks depending on their condition. Salvaged bricks will be used to reconstruct steps leading to the porch on the north side as shown in Photograph 4 (Enclosure 3). Handrails along the steps will be rough-cut lumber in keeping with the building's log cabin appearance.

We will not change the interior wall finish but we will refurbish the wood floors. The metal bars on the windows will be removed. An existing storage closet will be converted to a men's restroom. This will allow us to convert the existing men's restroom to an accessible family restroom (Enclosure 4, Floor Plan 1). The interiors of the existing bathrooms will be gutted and new tile and fixtures installed. We will update the electrical wiring and install a HVAC system.

To assist you with your review we have enclosed a copy of the original architectural design from 1940 (Enclosure 5). In addition, we have included both historical and current photographs of the contact station (Enclosure 6, Photographs 5-13).

We look forward to your comments and suggestions. If you need to meet with us on site to explain any of our proposals, we will be happy to do so. Contact Dr. Christina E. Miller Smith at 662-840-7560 or Christina_smith@nps.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/

Gordon J. Wilson
Acting Superintendent

Enclosures.

RM:Drafts:Correspondence 2009: Ridgeland Craft Center: Ridgeland Craft Center SHPO
Consultation: CM:AE:mdo: 03/06/09

bcc: Central
Read, RM, RA,

Proposed Sidewalk Route No. 1



Scale: 1"=15'

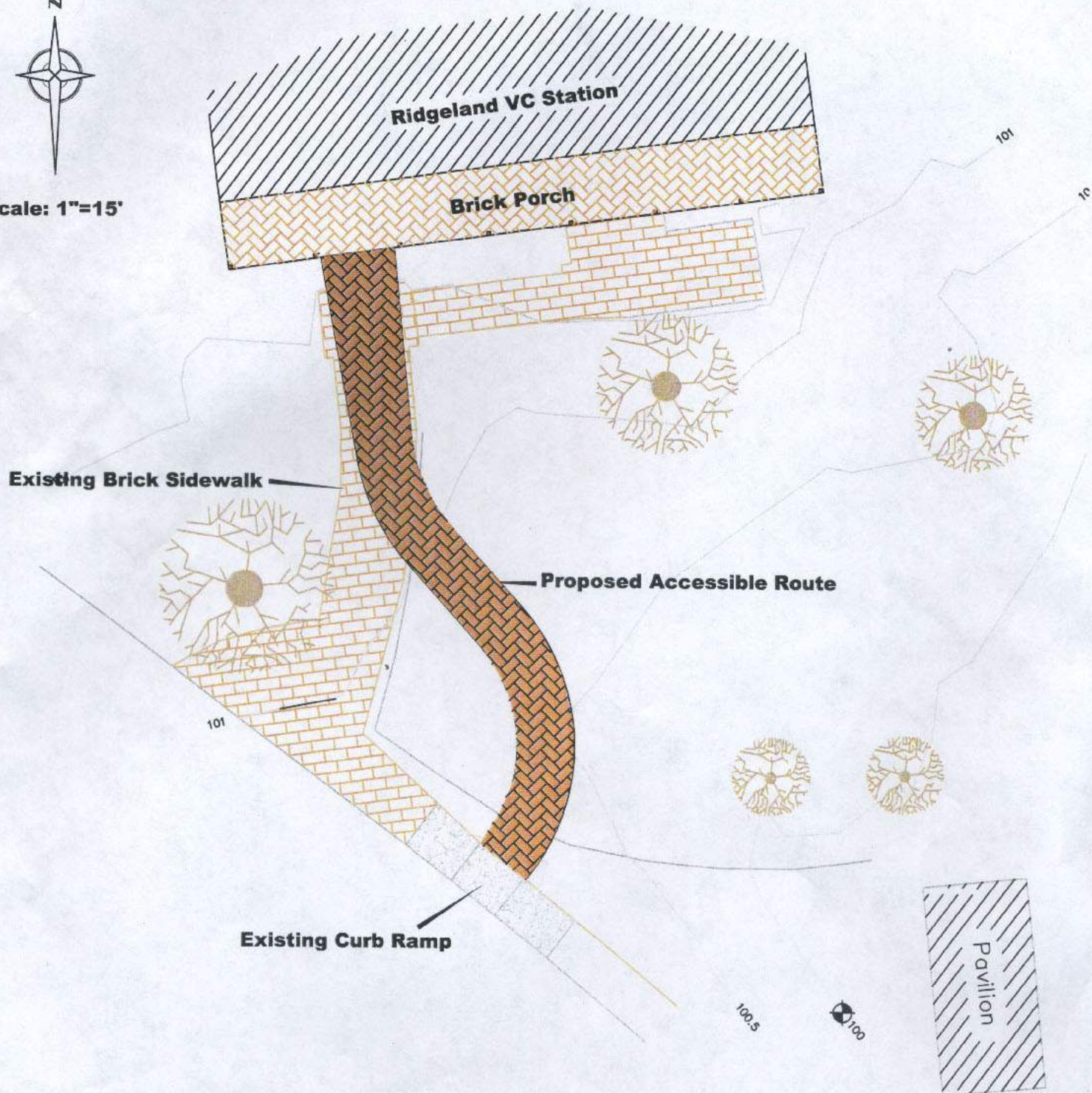




Photo 1: Taken in either 1950 or 1951.



Photo 2: Taken in 1951.



Photo 3: Taken in 1951.



Photo 4: 1951 dedication.



Photo 5: no date, view from Parkway motor road.



Photo 6: Taken in 1959.



Photo 7: Brick sidewalk.



Photo 8: Brick sidewalk detail.



Photo 9: South entrance.



Photo 10: View of the northeast corner.



Photo 11: View of sidewalk and existing handicap entrance.



Photo 12: Another view of the southern elevation.



Photo 13: Breezeway area, view of bathroom entrance.

Appendix E

Topographic Model of Slab, Plan View



Simpson Gumpertz & Heger Inc.
1828 L Street NW, Suite 950
Washington, DC 20036
main: 202.239.4199 fax: 202.239.4198
www.sgh.com

Boston
Chicago
Houston
Los Angeles
New York
San Francisco
Washington, DC

No.	Date	Description	By
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Project

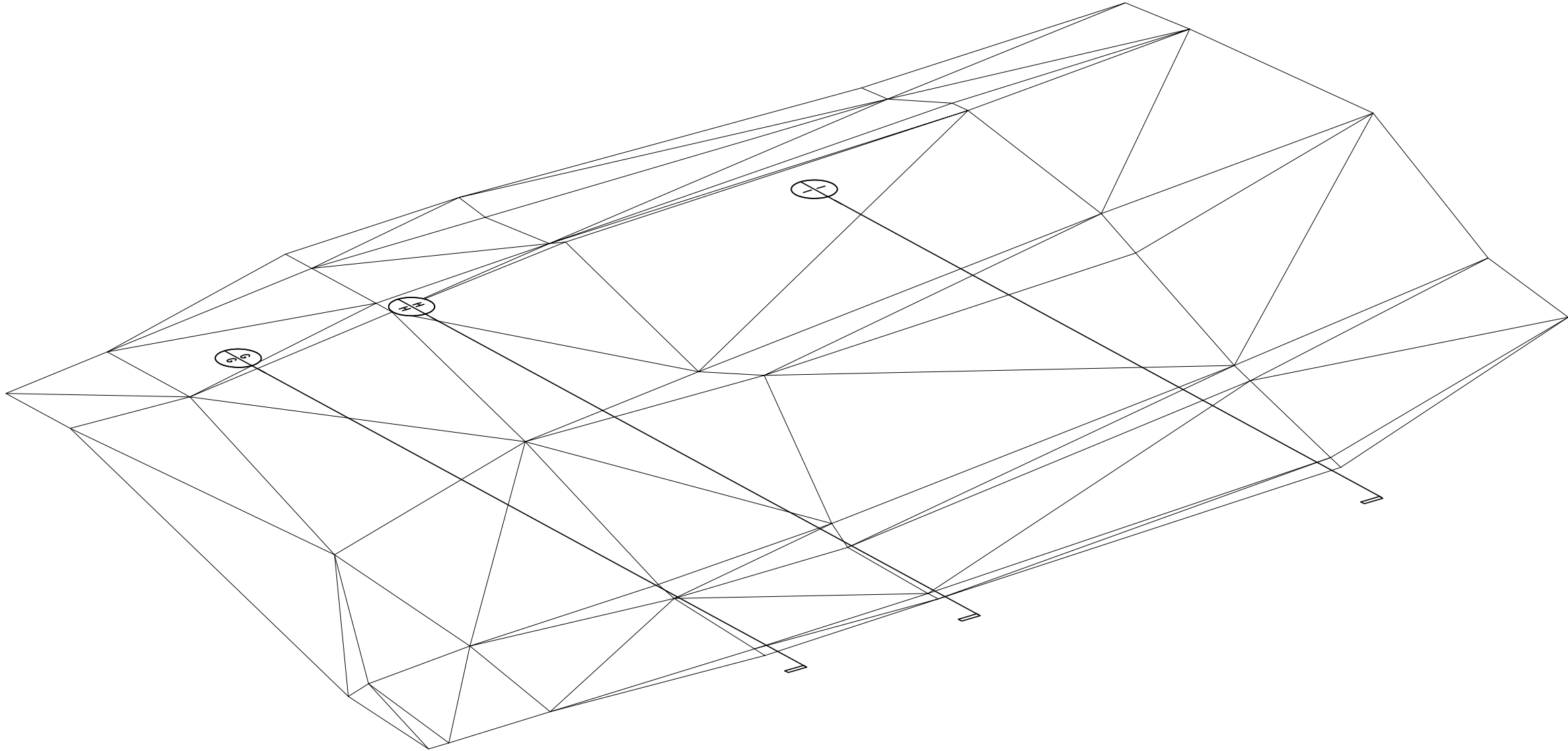
Drawing Title

	Drawing No.
--	-------------

Seal

Appendix F

Exaggerated Topographic Model



SIMPSON GUMPERTZ & HEGER

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San Francisco
Washington, DC

Consultant

No.	Date	Description	By

PROJECT TITLE
PROJECT NAME
ADDRESS 1

Project

Exaggerated
Topographic Model
of Slab - Isometric
View

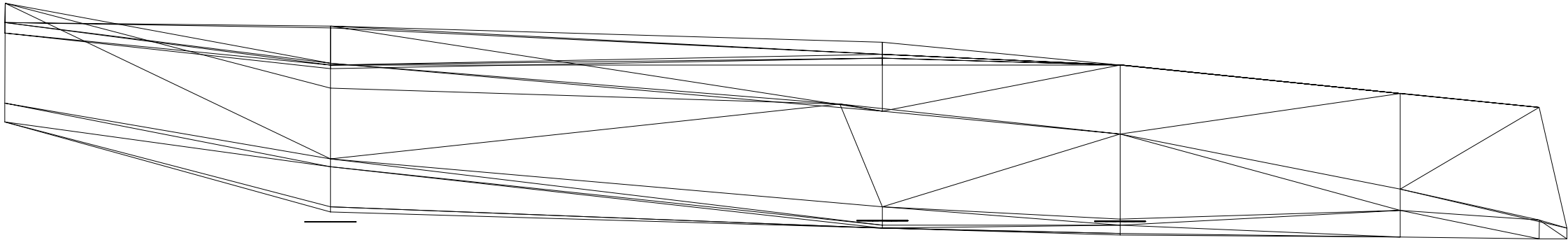
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Project No. 00000.00	Checked	Date 00/00/00
Drawn	Approved	Scale

Drawing No.

SK-01

Seal



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Consultant

No.	Date	Description	By

PROJECT TITLE
PROJECT NAME
ADDRESS 1

Project

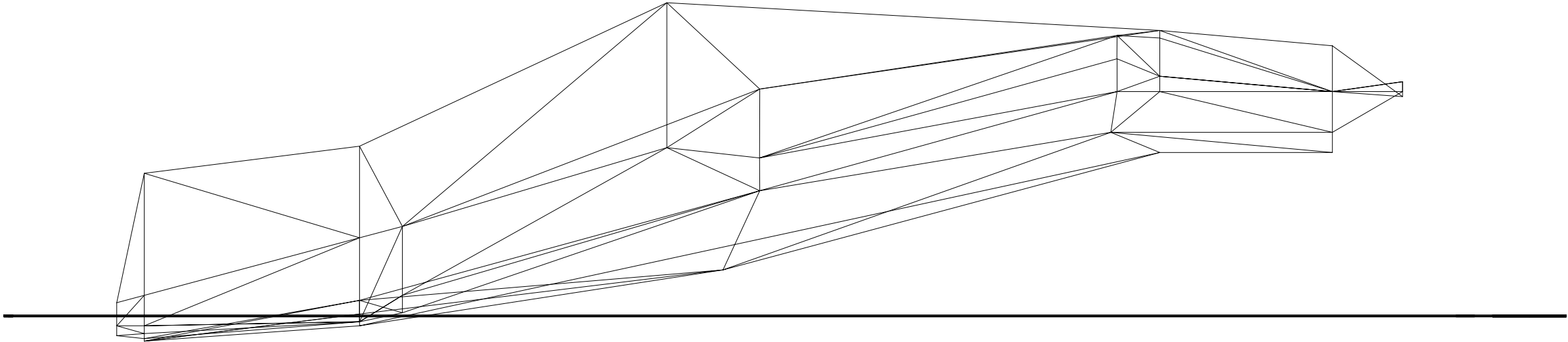
Exaggerated
Topographic Model
of Slab - North
Elevation

Drawing Title

Project No. 00000.00	Checked	Date 00/00/00
Drawn	Approved	Scale

Drawing No.	
SK-02	
Seal	

\\PC\Projects\2018\18168.dwg 2018-10-26 10:05 Drawing: Survey - Model



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Consultant

No.	Date	Description	By

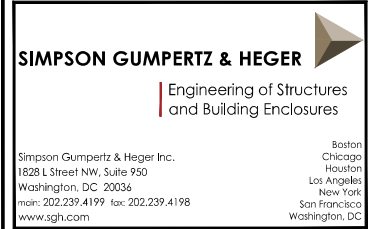
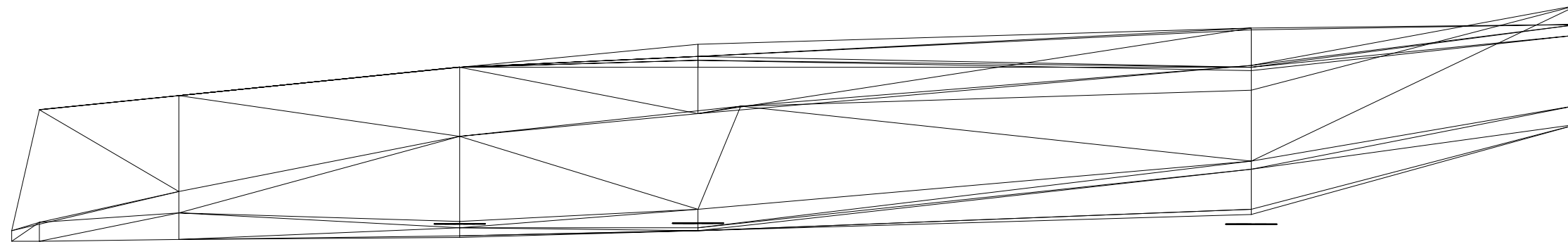
PROJECT TITLE
PROJECT NAME
ADDRESS 1

Project

**Exaggerated
Topographic Model
of Slab - East
Elevation**

Drawing Title

Project No. 00000.00	Checked	Date 00/00/00
Drawn	Approved	Scale
Seal		Drawing No. SK-03



Consultant

No.	Date	Description	By

PROJECT TITLE
PROJECT NAME
ADDRESS 1

Project

**Exaggerated
Topographic Model
of Slab - South
Elevation**

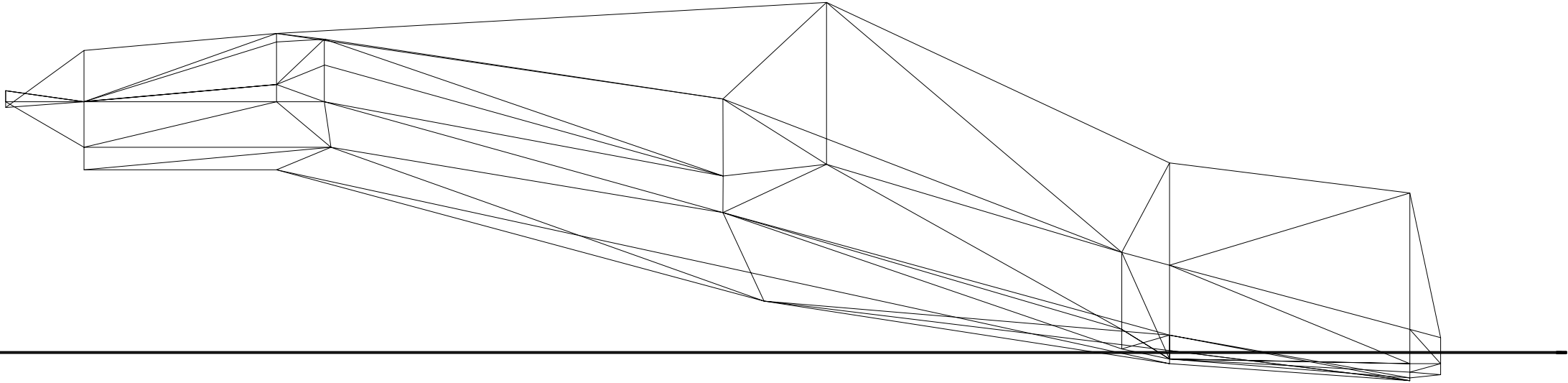
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Project No. 00000.00	Checked	Date 00/00/00
Drawn	Approved	Scale

	Drawing No.
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Seal

SK-04



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Houston
Los Angeles
New York
San Francisco
Washington, DC

Consultant

No.	Date	Description	By

PROJECT TITLE
PROJECT NAME
ADDRESS 1

Project

Exaggerated
Topographic Model
of Slab - West
Elevation

Drawing Title

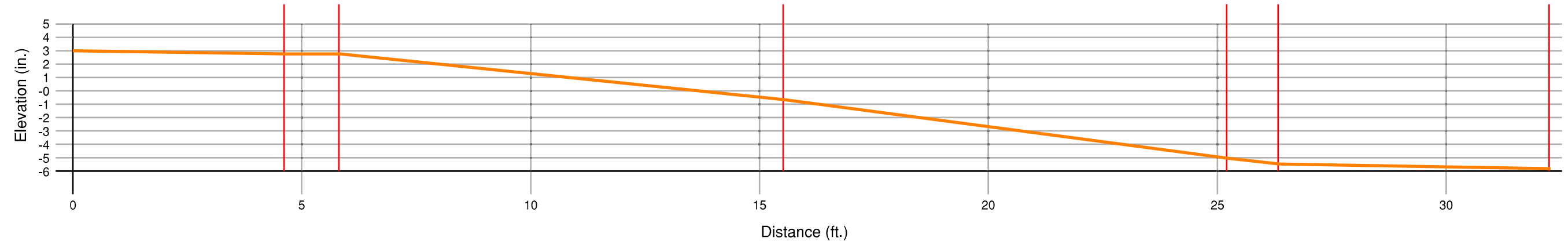
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Drawn	Approved	Scale

Seal	Drawing No. SK-05
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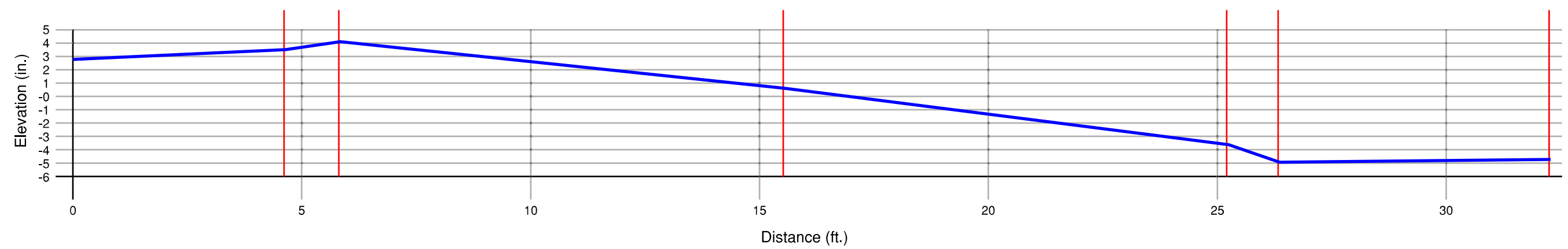
Appendix G

Sections from SGH Measurements

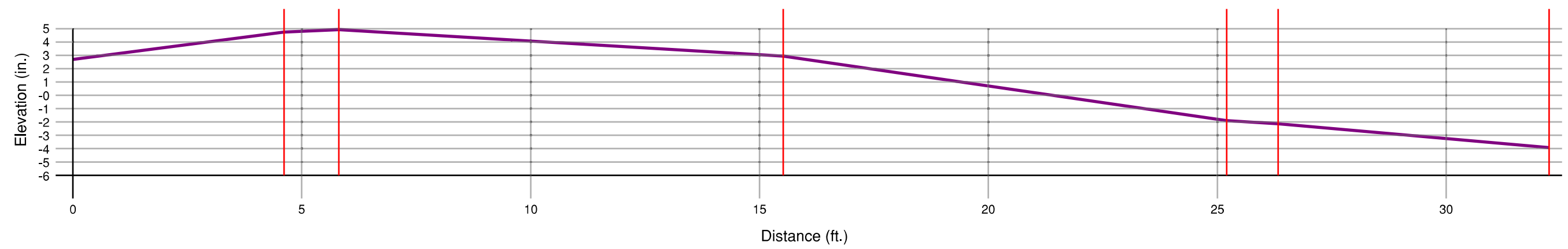
Section G-G



Section H-H



Section I-I



Appendix H

Sections Overlay

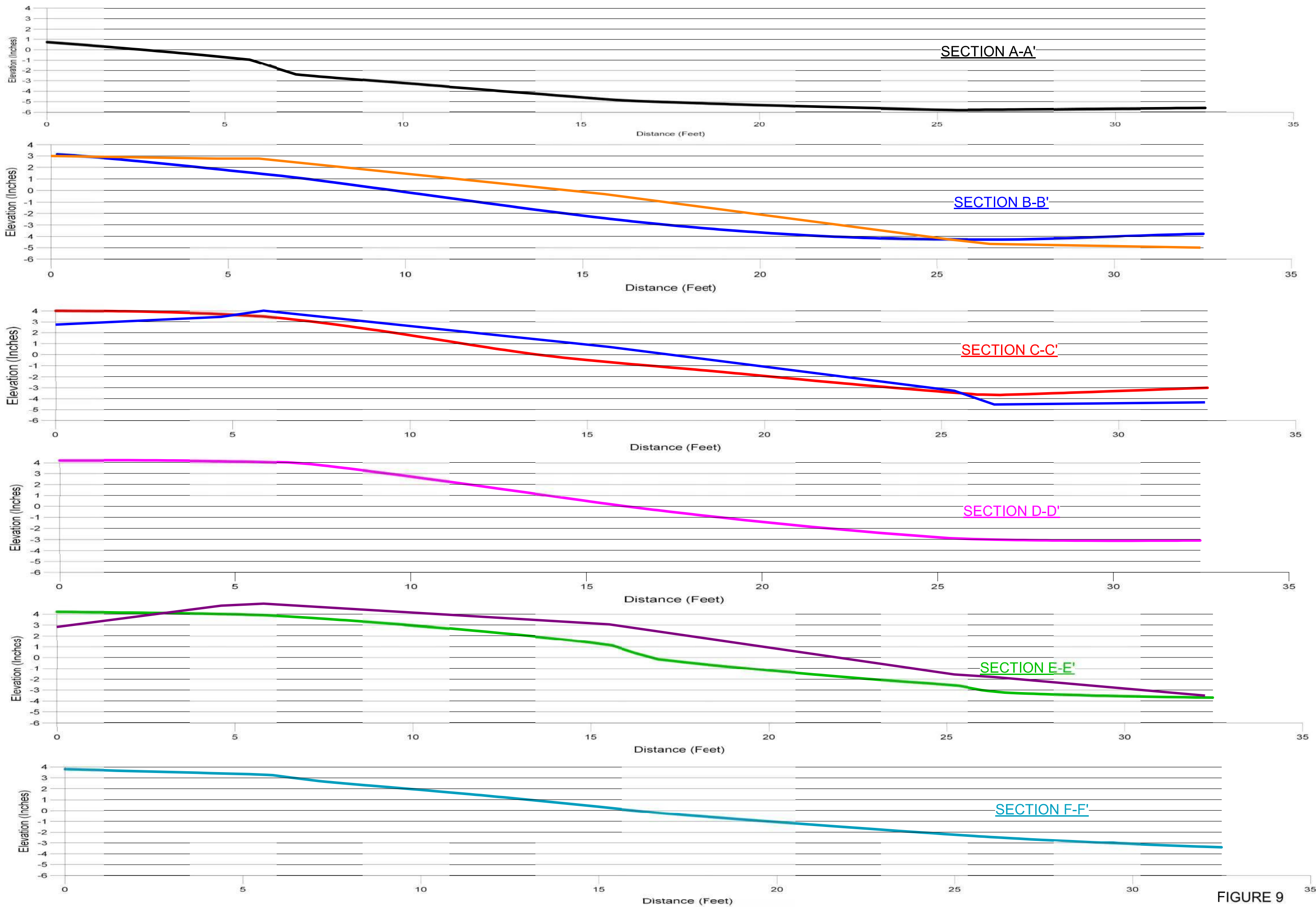


FIGURE 9

Appendix I

Exploration of Subsurface Soil Conditions Geotechnical Services
to Support Ridgeland Cabin Historic Structure Report, Burns Cooley Dennis, 2020.

BURNS COOLEY DENNIS, INC.

GEOTECHNICAL AND MATERIALS ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS

Corporate Office
551 Sunnybrook Road
Ridgeland, MS 39157
Phone: (601) 856-9911
Fax: (601) 853-2077

Mailing Address
Post Office Box 12828
Jackson, MS 39236
www.bcdgeo.com

Materials Laboratory
278 Commerce Park Drive
Ridgeland, MS 39157
Phone: (601) 856-2332
Fax: (601) 856-3552

July 13, 2020

Ms. Katherine Frey, Associate
Mills + Schnoering Architects, LLC
200 Forrestal Road, Suite 3A
Princeton, New Jersey 08540

Report No. 200306

Exploration of Subsurface Soil Conditions Geotechnical Services to Support Ridgeland Cabin Historic Structure Report Madison County, Mississippi

Dear Ms. Frey:

Submitted here is the report of our exploration of subsurface soil conditions for the above-captioned project site. This exploration was authorized by your Standard Form of Agreement Between Architects and Consultant for special services dated May 4, 2020. We caution that this report merely presents the subsurface soil conditions encountered at the locations of the test pits. No recommendations are provided as part of this report.

Project Description and Scope of Work

We understand the National Park Service (NPS) has engaged Mills+Schnoering Architects, LLC (M+Sa) to research and develop a historic structure report (HSR) for the Natchez Trace Parkway Ridgeland Information Cabin. On October 31st, Bill Gatlin, Architectural Historian, representatives from M+Sa, and Simpson, Gumphertz & Heger met with Parkway staff to discuss the HSR and examine the cabin. At that meeting, it was decided additional geotechnical work is needed to provide the structural engineer the means to inspect and evaluate the existing cabin foundation.

The specific purposes of this exploration were:

- Engage a contractor to excavate two test pits at the cabin to determine the condition of the connections of the concrete slab to the piles.
- Observe the excavation of the test pits, collect soil samples and perform laboratory tests on the samples to investigate the classifications, water contents and volume change properties of the soils encountered in the test pits.
- Provide a report that includes a plan showing the test pit locations, the results of all laboratory tests, photographs and a complete description of the services provided and our observations.

Field Exploration

Subsurface soil conditions and the condition of the foundation/pile connections were explored by means of two test pits. The test pits were excavated by our subcontractor, Ewing & Ray Foundation Services, Inc. The test pit locations were selected by Matthew J. Daw, P.E., project structural engineer with Simpson Gumpertz & Heger. The approximate locations of the test pits are shown on Figure 1.

All soils were classified in general accordance with the Unified Soil Classification System. A synopsis of the Unified Soil Classification System is presented on Figure 2 along with the symbols and terminology utilized on the test pit graphical logs. Graphical logs of the test pits are presented on Figures 3 and 4.

Test Pit #1 (TP#1) was excavated to an exploration depth of 4 ft outside the building adjacent to the west side at the southwest corner of the cabin. Test Pit # 2 (TP#2) was excavated to an exploration depth of 4 ft in the northeast corner of the women's bathroom. A sledge hammer was utilized to create an access hole through the floor slab.

Samples were obtained at approximate 1-ft depth intervals from the side walls and from the bottom of the test pits. The depths at which the samples were taken are illustrated as small I-shaped symbols under the "Samples" column of the graphic logs.

All soils encountered during drilling were examined and classified in the field by a geotechnical engineer. The samples were sealed in jars to provide material for visual examination and testing in the laboratory. Unless other disposition is requested, we routinely discard soil samples after about six months of storage.

At this time, the exterior test pit (TP #1) has been backfilled and the interior test pit (TP#2) has been covered with plywood to allow structural inspection to be performed by others.

Laboratory Testing

All of the soil samples were examined in the laboratory and tests were performed on the samples to assist in evaluating the classifications and volume change properties of the subsurface soils encountered in the test pits. The types of laboratory tests performed are described in the following paragraphs.

Classification Tests. The classifications and volume change properties of fine-grained soils were investigated by means of Atterberg liquid and plastic limit tests. The results of the liquid and plastic limit tests are plotted as small crosses interconnected by dashed lines in the data section of the graphic logs. In accordance with the Unified Soil Classification System, fine-grained soils are classified as either clays or silts of low or high plasticity based on the results of Atterberg limit tests. The numerical difference between the liquid limit and plastic limit is defined as the plasticity index (PI). The magnitudes of the liquid limit and plasticity index and the proximity of the natural water content to the plastic limit are indicators of the potential for a fine-grained soil to shrink or swell upon changes in moisture content or to consolidate under loading. The proximity of the natural water content to the plastic limit is also an indicator of soil strength.

Water Content Tests. Water content tests were performed on each sample. The results of the water content tests are plotted as small shaded circles in the data section of the graphic logs. The water content data have been interconnected on the logs to illustrate a continuous profile with depth.

General Subsurface Conditions

A general description of subsurface soil and groundwater conditions revealed by the test pits excavated for this exploration is provided in the following paragraphs. The graphical logs shown on Figures 3 and 4 should be referred to for specific soil and groundwater conditions encountered at each test pit location.

Soil Conditions.

Test Pit#1. TP#1 was excavated outside of the building adjacent to the west side at the southwest corner of the cabin. The ground surface at the location of TP#1 was found to be underlain by silty sand (SM) fill materials to a depth of about 1 ft. The silty sand (SM) fill materials are characterized as dense and are considered to have high strength and low compressibility. The water content within the silty sand (SM) fill materials is 11 percent. The silty sand (SM) fill materials have no potential for shrinking and swelling.

The silty sand (SM) fill materials were found to be underlain by natural silty clays (CL) which were encountered to the 4-ft completion depth of TP#1. The silty clays (CL) are classified as hard in the interval from 1 ft to 2.5 ft and as very stiff below 2.5 ft. The

silty clays (CL) are considered to have high strength and low compressibility. Atterberg limit tests performed on three samples of the silty clays (CL) yielded liquid limits of 42, 43 and 46, plastic limits of 19, 20 and 22 and plasticity indices of 20, 24 and 26. Water contents within the silty clays (CL) range from 18 to 23 percent. The silty clays (CL) are considered to have low shrink/swell potential.

Test Pit #2. TP#2 was excavated in the northeast corner of the women's bathroom. A sledge hammer was utilized to create an access hole through the floor slab. The thickness of the concrete slab was found to be about 8 in. An approximate 3-in. void was observed immediately below the concrete slab. A 3-in thick layer of gravel was encountered immediately below the void. Natural silty clays (CL) were encountered immediately below the gravel layer and extended to the 4-ft completion depth of TP#2. The silty clays (CL) are classified as hard from 1.25 ft to 2.5 ft, very stiff from 2.5 ft to 3.5 ft and as stiff below 3.5 ft. The silty clays (CL) are considered to have moderate to high strength and low to moderate compressibility. Atterberg limit tests performed on four samples of the silty clays (CL) yielded liquid limits of 45, 46, 46 and 48, plastic limits of 16, 18, 20 and 22, and plasticity indices of 23, 26, 28 and 32. Water contents within the silty clays (CL) range from 15 to 26 percent and generally increase with depth. The silty clays (CL) are considered to have low to moderate shrink/swell potential.

Groundwater Conditions. Free water was not encountered in the test pits. In our opinion, groundwater conditions at the site will be influenced by rainfall and surface drainage. Groundwater conditions at the site can also be influenced by man-made changes such as leaking water supply lines and sewer lines.

Field Observations of the Test Pits.

The following observations were made during a teleconference with Mr. Matthew J. Daw while we were at the site on June 5, 2020. Photographs referenced in this section are included in the Attachment.

Test Pit #1;

- TP#1 was excavated outside of the building adjacent to the west side at the southwest corner of the cabin. **(Photograph No. 1)**
- A significant number of roots and rootlets were observed in TP#1. **(Photograph No. 2)**
- The exposed portion of the pile is intact and appears to be in good condition. **(Photograph No. 3)**
- Top of pile was not in contact with grade beam near edge of exposed grade beam. **(Photograph Nos. 4 and 5)**
- The grade beam was cast on top of the pile. **(Photograph Nos. 6 and 7)**

Test Pit #2;

- TP#2 was excavated in the northeast corner of the women's bathroom. **(Photograph No. 8)**
- A significant number of roots and rootlets were observed in the TP#2. **(Photograph No. 8)**
- A void was observed below the concrete slab. **(Photograph Nos. 9 and 10)**
- Exposed pile appears to be in good condition. **(Photograph No. 11)**

Report Limitations

We caution that this report merely presents subsurface conditions encountered at the locations of the test pits. It should be understood that subsurface conditions between and beyond the test pits might differ from those encountered at the test pit locations. The only warranty made by us in connection with the services provided is we have used that degree of care and skill ordinarily exercised under similar conditions by reputable members of our profession practicing in the same or similar locality. No other warranty, express or implied, is made or intended.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service. If you should have any questions concerning this report, please do not hesitate to call us.

Very truly yours,

BURNS COOLEY DENNIS

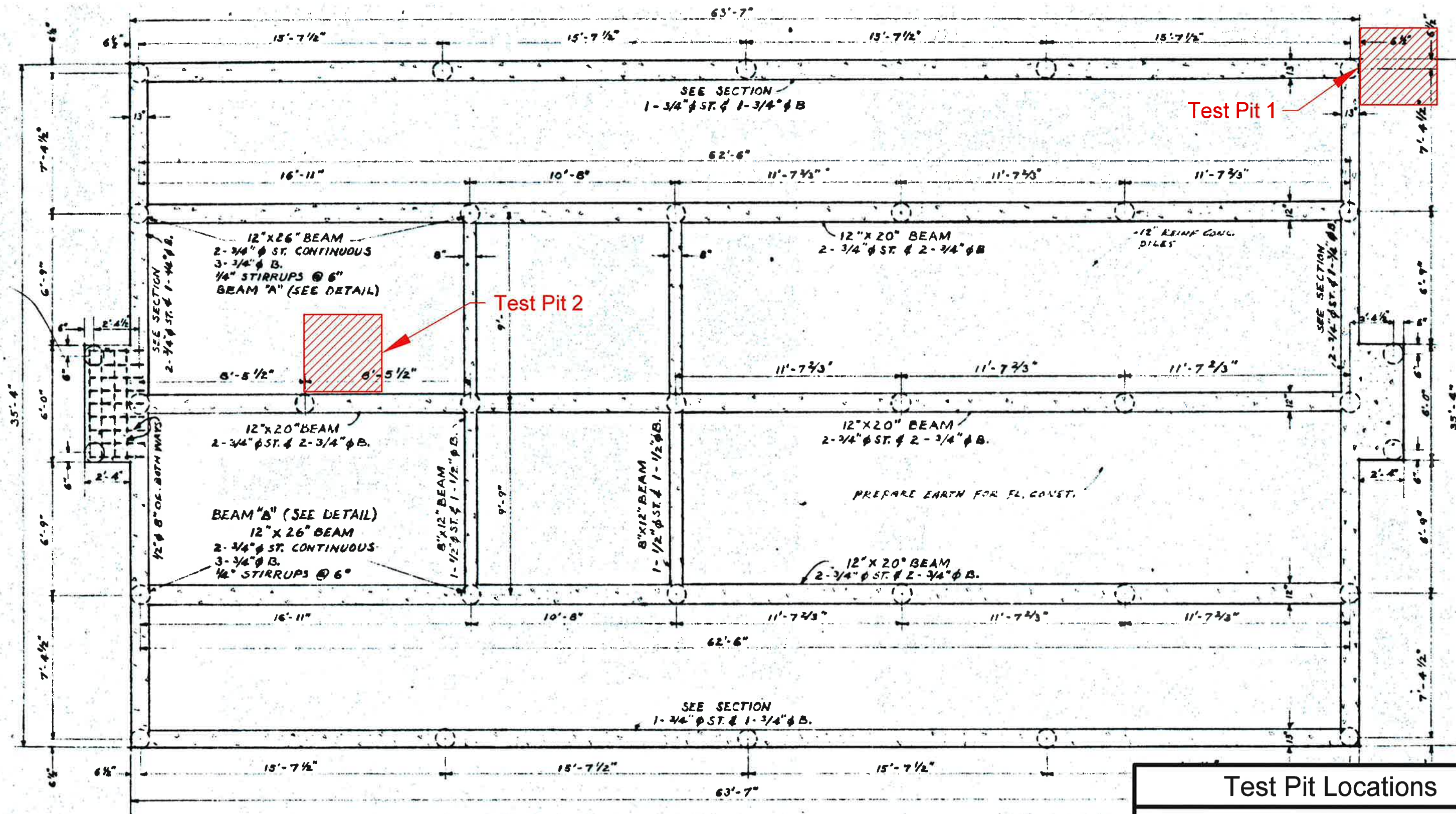
Marcos V. F. Rodrigues
Marcos V. F. Rodrigues



A. E. (Eddie) Templeton
A. E. (Eddie) Templeton, P.E.

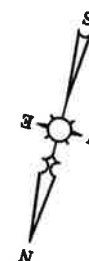
AET/ATR/khb
Copy Submitted: (via e-mail)
Attachment

FIGURES



0 2.5 5 10

SCALE: 1" = 5'



Test Pit Locations

GEOTECHNICAL SERVICES TO SUPPORT
RIDGELAND CABIN HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT
MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

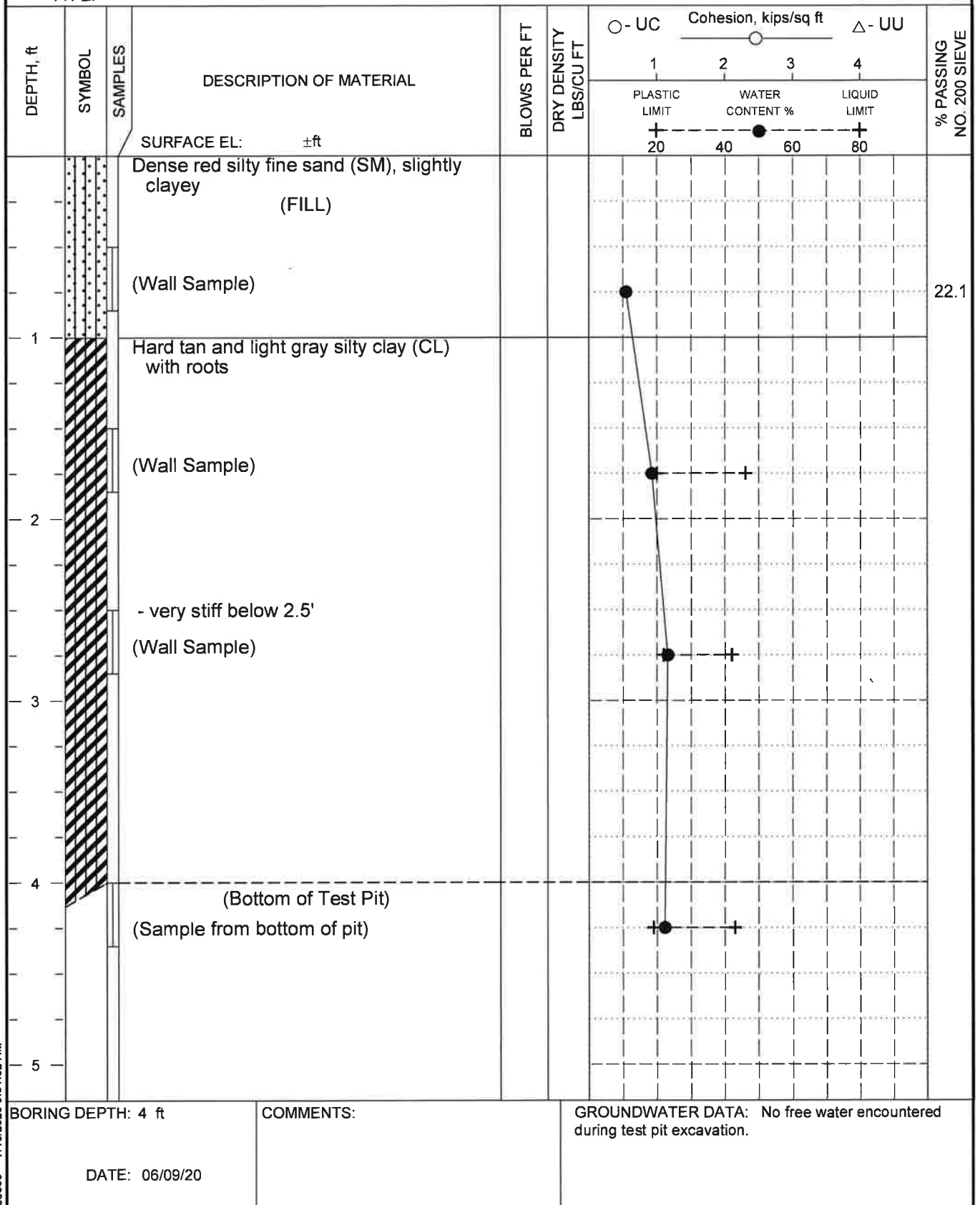
BURNS COOLEY DENNIS, INC.
551 SUNNYBROOK ROAD
RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI 39157

JOB NO. 200306 SCALE: AS SHOWN FIGURE 1

LOG OF BORING NO. 1
 GEOTECHNICAL SERVICES TO SUPPORT
 RIDGELAND CABIN HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT
 MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

TYPE: SHOVEL

LOCATION: See Figure 1

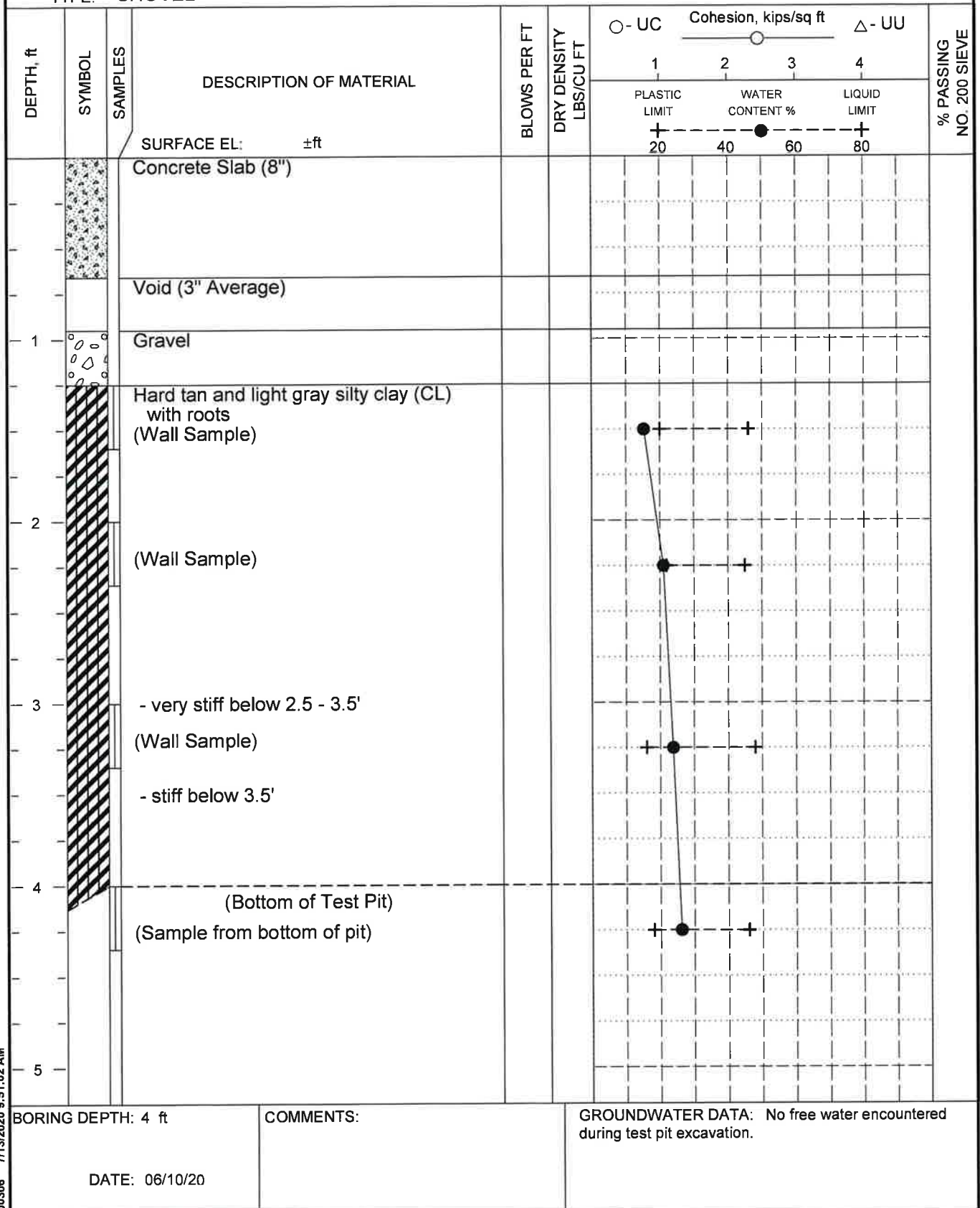


200306 7/13/2020 9:51:02 AM

LOG OF BORING NO. 2
 GEOTECHNICAL SERVICES TO SUPPORT
 RIDGELAND CABIN HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT
 MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

TYPE: SHOVEL

LOCATION: See Figure 1



200306 7/13/2020 9:51:02 AM

FIGURE 4

ATTACHMENTS



Photograph No. 1 – Test Pit#1 was excavated outside of the building adjacent to the west side at the southwest corner of the cabin.



Photograph No. 2 – A significant number of roots and rootlets were observed in TP#1.



Photograph No. 3 – Exposed pile appears to be in good condition.



Photograph No. 4 – Top of pile was not in contact with grade beam near edge of exposed grade beam.



Photograph No. 5 – Top of pile was not in contact with grade beam near edge of exposed grade beam.



Photograph No. 6 - Grade Beam casted on top of the pile.



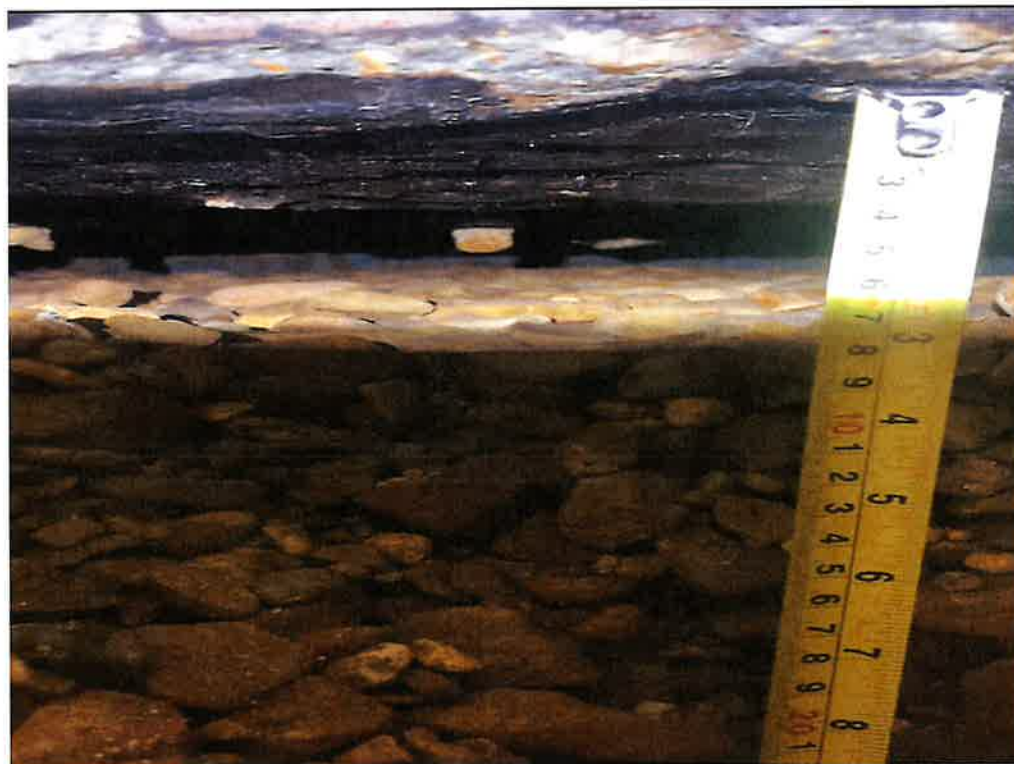
Photograph No. 7 – Grade Beam casted on top of the auger cast pile.



Photograph No. 8 – TP#2 inside of the women's bathroom. A significant number of rootlets were observed in TP#2.



Photograph No. 9 - A void was observed below the concrete slab.



Photograph No. 10 - A void was observed below the concrete slab.



Photograph No.11- Exposed pile appears to be in good condition.

Appendix J

Determination of Eligibility for Tennessee sections of Natchez Trace Parkway, 2004



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Final decision

DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY NOTIFICATION

National Register of Historic Places National Park Service

Name of Property: Natchez Trace Parkway

Location: Wayne County et al.

State: Tennessee

Request submitted by: Mark A. Doctor, Field Operations Team Leader, FHWA, TN Office

Date received: 10/01/02

Additional information received: 6/14/04

Opinion of the State Historic Preservation Officer:

☒ Eligible ☐ Not Eligible ☐ No Response ☐ Need More Information

Comments: SHPO believes that the entire Natchez Trace Parkway is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

The Secretary of the Interior has determined that this property is:

☒ Eligible Applicable criteria: ☐ Not Eligible

Comment: The portion of the Natchez Trace Parkway in Tennessee is eligible for listing in the National Register under criteria A and C. The parkway is significant for its association with the planning and development of a national parkway system during the New Deal era and as an example of naturalistic parkway design. Sections 1E, 1F, and 1G meet Criteria Consideration G because of their association with the "Mission '66" initiative. Sections 1A, 1B, 1C, and 1D do not currently contribute to the significance of the parkway due to their recent dates of construction.

Based on the information provided, it appears that the entire length of the Natchez Trace Parkway in Mississippi, Alabama, and Tennessee may be eligible for listing in the National Register. This determination of eligibility, however, pertains only to the Tennessee portion of the parkway.

☐ Documentation insufficient

(Please see accompanying sheet explaining additional materials required)

for Daniel J. Vio
Keeper of the National Register

Date: July 28, 2004

Appendix K

Draft PMIS Statements

Appendix K Draft PMIS statements

The Ridgeland Information Cabin is associated with the development of the Natchez Trace Parkway. The log, dogtrot cabin was designed in 1940 by Robert E. Smith, of the NPS Architectural Division in Tupelo, Mississippi for use as a visitor contact station on the Parkway. Constructed in 1951, the picturesque cabin design was intended to convey the early history of the Old Trace and settlements of the Lower Mississippi Valley. The cabin, the first interpretive center associated with the Natchez Trace Parkway, was constructed using native materials, natural whole logs, with the look of a hand-built structure. Due to the clay soils in the area, the cabin was constructed on a concrete foundation with grade beams and 30-foot-deep concrete piles.

The Ridgeland Information Cabin is currently in poor condition. The deep foundation system of the cabin has failed. The soil beneath the concrete slab is settling and dragging the piles down with it. A pile observed during the 2020 geotechnical investigation was disengaged from a grade beam. As a result of foundation failure, the slab deflection does not conform to current code. The 10 inches of differential settlement across the structure due to the moisture-sensitive clay soils has sheared the plumbing under the concrete slab and has affected operability of doors inside the cabin. The restrooms within the cabin are inoperable.

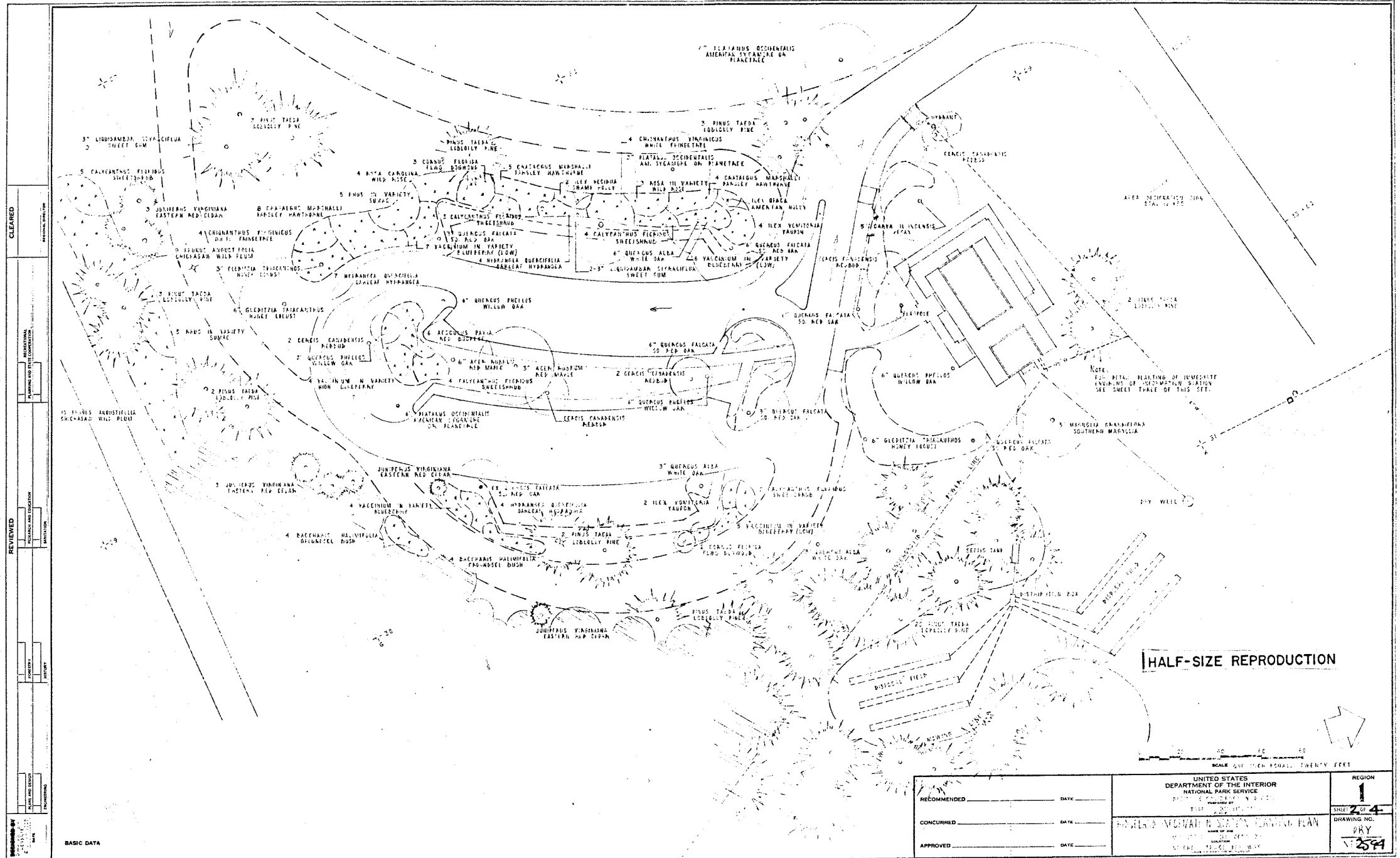
The project will preserve the structure to a more sustainable and enjoyable condition for visitors and staff. With the current condition and the public is not allowed access to toilet rooms within the structure. Temporary toilet rooms distract from the intended rustic setting of the cabin. Once completed the project would allow visitor access to the toilet rooms within the structure as originally intended and will remove the temporary toilet.

Correcting the foundation and toilet room issues will allow for safe visitor access and working conditions for Park staff and will allow for the preservation of the cabin's interior and exterior materials and features.

Repair and replacement of roofing and grading around the cabin, will improve resilience to natural hazards such as increased precipitation.

Appendix L

Planting Plan, Undated



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Ridgeland Information Cabin
Natchez Trace Parkway
100 E Jackson Street
Ridgeland, MS 39157

www.nps.gov/natr